

THE
R—L
REGISTER.

WITH
ANNOTATIONS

By ANOTHER HAND.

SIC PATER ÆNEAS.

VIRG.

VOL. IV.

L O N D O N :

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THE very great Encouragement which the Public has given, and still continues to afford to this Work, will not only justify my offering another Volume to their Inspection, but has emboldened me to be less reserved than I at first intended in the use of the singular Manuscripts in my possession.—Another Volume, if I have the necessary leisure, will be published early in the ensuing Spring, and will

ADVERTISEMENT.

will contain Observations on some of the most eminent *Commoners*, with an Essay on *modern Oratory*, and the Characters of those who are most eminent for that Talent in the present times.

The principal Female Persons of this Kingdom will follow in due order.

I N D E X

TO THE

C H A R A C T E R S.

	Page
A—, L. — —	111
B—, L. — —	10
B—, E. of — —	27
B—, D. of — —	93
B—, E. of — —	106
B—, E. of — —	171
C—, E. of — —	43
C—, B. of — —	58
C—, L. — —	60
C— and O—, E. of —	139
C—, D. of — —	168
D—, D. of — —	50
D—, B. of — —	98
F—, E. — —	102
F—, L. — —	146
F—, L. — —	164
H—, — —	

I N D E X.

	Page
H—, L. —	32
H—, E. of —	83
M—, E. of —	155
O—, L. —	35
O—, E. of —	114
O—, L. —	116
P—, E. of —	122
R—, E. of —	77
R—, E. of —	85
S—, E. of —	37
S— and S—, L. —	151
W—, B. of —	I
W—, E. of —	128
W—, E. of —	131

CHA-

CHARACTERS; &c.

B— — of W— — —.

WHEN this amiable Divine became a candidate for the Mitre, his Youth, if I may use the expression, occasioned a most formidable opposition; and it was very forcibly and repeatedly objected, that he was not sufficiently advanced in years to be named to such an important charge. The argument might, in general, be a good one; but the Relation which he bore to a faithful, upright, and able Minister,

VOL. IV.

B

with

with his own character for Learning and Virtue, were circumstances sufficient to ensure and justify his elevation*.

Besides, the opposition proceeded from a person who, tho' he may be well qualified to convert men to his opinion,

* The Interest of a Minister is a more sure road to preferment than the most profound Learning or the most exemplary Piety.—It was by the propitious influence of ministerial Power that this Divine was promoted to a Canonry of *Christ Church, Oxford*, almost as soon as he was ordained a Priest—to the Deanery of *Canterbury* in a very short time afterwards—to the Bishoprick of *Litchfield and Coventry* at the age of thirty—and, in three or four years more, to the Mitre of *Worcester*; a most pleasant, eligible and profitable Dignity. But the career of prosperity is to continue, and the same influence has procured the

opinion, and whose recommendation might command attention, in matters of a temporal concern, has never been particularly assiduous, or, I should think, even desirous, to acquire consequence in affairs of a spiritual nature. --- A Zeal for the Honour of the Church is not generally supposed to compose any part of his Lordship's character*.

B 2

The

the promise of succeeding to the See of *Winchester*, on the death of the present very aged Prelate of that diocese;—a Preferment, considered in all its circumstances, the best and most desirable in the Church of England.

* This was the pious Earl of S—, who is said to have opposed in council the Nomination of Doctor N— to a vacant See, on account of his age, which, he insisted, was not sufficiently advanced to justify his appointment to a spiritual charge of so much importance.

The introduction of the Nobility into the Church, which now begins to be frequent, meets with my most hearty approbation.—After some reflection, I am convinced that such a circumstance will be attended with very beneficial consequences. Indeed,

importance.—A very warm and retorting altercation took place between the Minister and this zealous Advocate for the Honour of the church, upon the Subject.—It must surely be the particular ambition of this noble Lord to appear in every possible Character, or he would not have placed himself in a situation which must force a smile of ridicule upon the gravest face.—This circumstance brings to my recollection what I have seen somewhere related of one of the King's Soldiers in the civil wars; who, being full of Zeal and Liquor, staggered against a church, and, clapping the wall of it repeatedly with his hand, hiccupped out "*D—n you, you B—b, never fear—I'll stand by you to the last.*"

deed, it is natural to conclude, that the Interests of Religion will be greatly advanced, when men of the highest ranks engage in its sacred functions.—The influence of Example is universal; and, in the degeneracy of the present times, when the distinguished prevalence of Vice and Immorality marks the source of them to be among the great,—it is well that there happens to be a profession of such a nature as to preserve some sense of Honour, Decency, and Good-manners, in One Member, at least, of a noble family.

I am well aware that the foregoing observations may be considered as fanciful by some, and nugatory by others, and that a ludicrous turn

may be given to them;—nevertheless, I am convinced, that every serious, reflecting person, who is at all acquainted with the present State of Manners among the Great, will be convinced of their propriety, and be conscious of the many situations, where the Presence of a Divine, especially if he be in an eminent situation, or of an eminent character, would be a great check upon loose and disorderly dispositions.—The man who wantonly offends against the rules of that delicacy which the forms of Good-breeding have suggested to be observed towards persons in holy orders, would be generally condemned even by those who would share in his ordinary profligacy and dissipation.---And this Respect, which, by
the

the common consent of mankind, is shewn to the clerical Profession, must, without entering into particulars, be encreased, and the good effects of it multiplied, when the different Branches of Nobility no longer hesitate to take upon themselves the ecclesiastical Character*.

B 4

The

* The great Personage who is supposed to have made these observations, seems to possess a very nice sensibility to Virtue and good order; and lets no occasion pass by without expressing his abhorrence of public Indecorum in those of high rank and elevated station.

The reasons he chuses to give for encouraging the Nobility to enter into the profitable Vineyard of the Church, partake both of good sense and novelty,—and are very severe on that rank of men:—but I cannot help expressing my fears that they will be more attentive to the Emoluments than the duties of their sacred profession;—
while

The English Bench of Bishops is, I believe, the most learned, honourable, and exemplary of any in Europe. --- This, surely, is no small encomium on them and the Church com-

while their admission to them, upon the claim of birth and political connections, will lessen the number of those very few rewards which have sometimes been bestowed upon great Learning and eminent Piety.

Men of the most enlarged way of thinking, as Scepticism is now called, will acknowledge that, if there is any-thing in religion, it must be of the last importance to human kind:—it cannot, therefore, admit of a doubt but that Religion suffers a most shameful violation, when a Bishopric is kept vacant till a young Divine has attained the period of canonical puberty, merely because he is the Brother of a Minister; while many excellent and learned men, whose characters are truly apostolic, and whose lives have been employed in the continual discharge of their holy duties, remain unnoticed in the same humble situation wherein they began their Evangelical Labours.

committed to their care; and, tho' their attention to temporal matters, in which their rank involves them, together with the ease and affluence of their situations, should sometimes lessen the vigour of Pastoral Exertions,---there is no living Example where the Episcopal Character is disgraced by an unchristian or immoral Life*.

L—

• There is, I believe, no Character of flagrant Vice to be found among the reverend persons who compose the present Bench of Bishops:—but, if I may so express myself, civil and episcopal Immorality are distinct things. An action, which would scarcely deserve reprehension in a common person, might become culpable when committed by a Prelate.—I do not know that Card-Assemblies are, in themselves, bad, or immoral;—nevertheless, if the Head of a Church were to encourage them at his Palace, he would, certainly, be liable to
the

L— B— —.

THERE is nothing which more strongly proves the superintendence of an over-ruling, providential Power, than the frequent defeat

the suspicion of preferring the pleasures of the world before his duty to God.

I remember to have been accidentally present at an Episcopal Residence, where, tho' cards were not admitted, a childish game of chance was the evening's amusement; and when this interesting business was interrupted by the servant's announcing the season of family prayer, I have seen the Bishop very attentive indeed to ascertain the precise State of the Game, that there might be no mistake when the impatient duty of Devotion was passed, and the company were returned to what seemed to be a much more engaging employment.

It, certainly, is not necessary that a Prelate should be guilty of Fornication, Adultery, profane

defeat of the Wisdom of the Wise, and the Courage of the Brave.---If human affairs were left to their own course, every cause would have a certain, unevasive effect, and doubt would seldom hover over the transactions of mankind: but by daily observation we behold, and by daily experience we find, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong;---that men of assiduous Industry and patient Labour sometimes fail of those rewards which
fall

profane Swearing, &c. to deserve the character of an Immoral Man.—Haughtiness to his inferiors, Indolence in his spiritual capacity, the Love of Money, a fondness of Ostentation, an open ear to Flattery, an anxious looking after better Preferment, &c. are very evident and disgraceful Immoralities in an Episcopal Character.

fall unsought into the lap of the care-
 less and the indolent;---that Wisdom
 itself frequently misses the way which
 Folly finds;---and that good men sigh
 in secret penury and disappointment,
 while the wicked bask in the Sunshine
 of Prosperity.

This short sketch of human pur-
 suits is so true to the nature of things,
 and warranted by such high autho-
 rity, that I cannot but look upon
 such a disposition of worldly affairs
 as, in some degree, if not entirely, re-
 quisite to that comprehensive whole
 of which our miseries are a necessary,
 and, perhaps, a beautiful part.---If
 this be the case, and I really think it
 is, why are Kings the subject of such
 severe and continual reprehension,
 for

for suffering Courts to be filled with any who are not among the best of mankind.---Such attacks upon the Thrones where Monarchs sit, and the Palaces where Monarchs dwell, are daily made, not only by the snarling, the envious, and the disappointed, but by men of Science, Study, and Wisdom.---The Poet, when an angry muse inspires him, finds no subject so suited to his purpose.---The Moralist, also, when he turns himself to the dark side of the world, never fails, by sober argument, as well as metaphorical description, to warn his readers against the vicious and fatal enticements of a Court: every smile that is seen there must be suspected, and every friendly word that is uttered beneath a royal roof is described to be

fall unfought into the lap of the careless and the indolent;---that Wisdom itself frequently misses the way which Folly finds;---and that good men sigh in secret penury and disappointment, while the wicked bask in the Sunshine of Prosperity.

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be the veil of an unfriendly purpose; nor is there a flower of courtly growth which is not declared to contain poison in its blossom, or conceal an asp beneath its foliage. --- The Divine, also, when he enforces the duties of Christian Life, and unfolds to his audience the obstacles to their attainment, will tell them that the Air is tainted which Monarchs breathe*.

How-

* The celebrated Mr. Whitefield, in one of his political sermons, after a very long and eloquent eulogium of our most gracious King, entered into a general and most severe description of the persons who composed his court, which he concluded with declaring,—that, at the last great day, when his pious and most excellent *Majesty George the Third* would ascend into Glory, and change a temporal for an eternal Crown,—his Courtiers would sink down into the Gulph of Hell and be damned
for

However these matters may be enlarged and aggravated by the imagination of some, and the disappointment of others, Princes themselves must own that the general ideas of mankind concerning the attendants on a throne are founded on the actual state of things; and it is, I am sure, one of the sharpest thorns in

for ever.—What a sad and melancholy contrast! continued the preacher; but, added he, how great must be the Virtue of that prince whom such powerful and surrounding Vice cannot contaminate, and how hardened and devilish must that Vice be, which cannot be conquered, or even softened, by the continual presence of so much Virtue.—This was a bold Flattery, but of that kind which shuts up every avenue that leads to the object of its destination.—*Bishop Hurd*, in his excellent sermon on the Fast Day, paid his friends a similar compliment, but in terms more polished, more courtly, and, of course, less offensive.

in the crown of a good King, that he must be sensible of the evil without being able to apply an adequate remedy.—He is like other men, but to his preeminence he owes, that his wishes are more often obstructed, and his purposes less frequently gratified, than theirs.

The Philosopher in his closet may form an imaginary system to give a perfection to Courts which is not any-where to be found, and at once to banish Corruption, Intrigue, and Dissimulation, with all the train of courtly Vices, from the dwellings of Princes.—He may talk of royal Authority, and royal Example, and the happy effects of their united Efforts: but Authority which goes beyond a certain

certain line, is considered as Tyranny; and Example is so silent an argument in favour of Virtue, that, among men brought up, as it were, in corruption, its influence can scarce be expected to extend beyond the presence of him who displays it.

In the various professions by which men sustain themselves and provide for their families, they must make use of such assistants and employ, such workmen and servants, as can answer their particular wants, and execute their particular orders: however pious the master may be, he will find it very contrary to his interest to discharge an active and ingenious artist from his service, tho' his manners may be tinged with Irreligion and

Profaneness. The captain of a ship does not examine the morals of his pilot; if he is well skilled in directing the vessel, and attends to his charge with diligence, it is thought sufficient: nor is a scrutiny made into any part of his conduct which does not relate to his professional duty. Indeed, if mankind were to act otherwise, at least in the present state of the world, the greater part of human affairs must inevitably stand still—If I am under the necessity of having certain assistance, I must apply to such as can render it to me;—in such a case, the delicacy of Virtue would be the extreme of Folly.

Wherefore then is the man, who presides over the Machine of Government,

ment, so severely attacked for the choice of his servants, or the disposal of his Honours.---If he provides men equal to their respective situations, who can lay, with reason, any misconduct to his charge?---An able man, in the critical turns of public affairs, must be preferred to a good man of inferior talents.---If Ability and Integrity could be united in every department of Government, it would be the greatest of blessings to a King and his Kingdom; but, in the present age, and, I believe, in every age, to effect such a purpose would be attended with unsurmountable difficulties: nor is there to be found, in any page of the ample volume of History, one example of a Court without corruption, or a Monarch

unassailed by Adulation. Nothing can be more evident than that he who is qualified for a particular duty or employment, tho' his private character may be very imperfect, must be preferred to the best man in the world who does not possess the necessary qualifications:---nay, the very men who do not hesitate to call a King unjust, and even wicked, for pursuing this conduct, would equally accuse him of folly, ignorance, and stupidity, to say no worse, if he prosecuted any other*.

Of

* There appears to be no little art and much good sense in some of these observations.—Mankind must act in this manner, and the most scrupulous, as well as enthusiastic, cannot be blind to the folly of a contrary proceeding.—Lady H— — —n would not, I believe, suffer an unskilful Coachman to drive her
her

Of all the sciences that encourage the pursuit and enquiries of mankind, that of Politics is the most difficult to comprehend; nevertheless, everyone thinks himself equal to the attain-

her carriage, tho' he might be the best Christian in the world, and, what is oftentimes of still greater importance, the best Psalm-singer at the Tabernacle.

The late Earl of H— —, who was as submissive a Courtier as ever bent before a Throne, being rallied by some of his Whig friends for frequenting an inn at Oxford which was supported by the opposite party, replied, without hesitation, that what he eat or drank would not affect his political principles, which were unchangeable; and that, whenever he found *Tory Mutton* better than *Whig Mutton*, he should never fail to regale himself with the former.

It is well known that the patriotic society of *Antigallicans* was framed upon the principle of discouraging French Importations of every kind; nevertheless, the necessary prohibition of *Claret* at their convivial meetings would

tainment of it.—If you ask the generality of men concerning works of art, taste, or scientific labour, you will find numbers of them who modestly retreat from giving their opinions, as not being sufficiently informed to return a satisfactory answer; while every individual, from the Cobler in his stall to the Chancellor upon the bench, thinks himself qualified to make his observations upon the affairs of Government, and to applaud or condemn, as shall suit his good pleasure.

have put a speedy conclusion to it, if the expedient of introducing *French Wine*, and hanging *Port Tickets* upon the bottles, had not been timely suggested.——It is well known, also, that *Boodle's Club*, which was formed upon the virtuous principles of not admitting any play above a small stipulated sum and in a separate room, was very soon obliged to relax its laws, and not long afterwards to render them nugatory by connivance, in order to preserve the Existence of the Association.

They who censure the schemes and conduct of Princes would do well to consider also the schemes and conduct of private men.—Persons wholly unworthy of public favour are frequently the objects of it. Offices of trust are often bestowed by the public on men whose private character does not justify the smallest share of their confidence.—A court, being the source of preferment, honours, &c. &c. must be the scene of artifice, intrigue, and every base action which is engendered by competition; and, being always the same, must exhibit a continual scene of the same events. But courts are not single in this description:--- every other place, where objects worthy of contention are held forth, becomes

the theatre of the same designs and artifices.---The difference consists in this,---that the one are only temporary, and the other perpetual.

The utmost a Prince can do is, to promote wise Laws,---to watch over a judicious execution of them,---and to hold forth a good example to all his subjects.---It is not in his power to make them what he pleases; but it depends upon him to employ them in that manner wherein they may be of the greatest utility.

——After all,—this is an ill-natured, unpitying world, that will not give to the most evident Virtues their due merit;---it cannot, therefore, be expected, that actions, which
must

must look for their apology in the necessity of human affairs, will meet with an indulgent observation.---The best of Kings will sometimes find himself obliged to bestow favours on the undeserving, to give folly the reward of wisdom, and to suffer the Ribbon and the Title to mark the weakest of men.---In the course of human affairs these things cannot be otherwise.---It was not designed that bread should be always given to men of understanding; but that time and chance, the flux and reflux of human concerns, should, in a great degree, regulate the circumstances and events of life.---Kings cannot oppose the general system of things:---in spite of all their pomp and power, they must

must share the lot of their fellow-mortals*.

E—

* I did not expect that the character of this Lord would have suggested such a length of Apology for that State-Necessity which sometimes compels Kings, not only contrary to their wishes,---but, in the opinion of lookers-on, to common sense.

This Nobleman never possessed the reputation of great mental talents:—others of a very different nature, if Sir *Charles Hanbury Williams*' word may be taken, were the cause of his Elevation.—Whatever they might be, they enabled him to bear away a very rich Duchess from all the Competitors for her favour; which alliance procured him the honours of a Red Ribbon, and finally raised him to the dignity of an English Peer.

What immediate necessities, or urgent wants of the State, could occasion his Creation, I cannot tell, nor did I ever hear them suggested.—The Duchess of M— — —, whom he married, was a great favourite of *George the Second*; and she might, perhaps, claim the
com-

E — of B — — —,

COURAGE ill-employed is worse than Cowardice---The latter certainly arises from an unmanly attention to self-preservation: nevertheless a man of a timid disposition may have amiable qualities, and be useful in that circle which a fearful temper may have drawn around him;---while he who goes in search of danger with no other view but

completion of a promise made in the last reign.—However, if, after all this long preamble, there had been no worse Example of his present M — — —'s grace and favour, it would have been very happy for the nation. The giving weak men Honours is of no immediate bad or dangerous consequences; but the giving weak men Power may be attended with the worst.

but to give proofs of his spirit, acts upon the weakest principles, makes moderate men afraid of his society, and can win applause only from women and children.—This kind of Bravo throws away a virtue upon trifles, which might be honourable to himself, and useful to his Country; and frequently runs a great hazard of losing his life, or being maimed and helpless through the course of it, from the silly impulse of displaying what he thinks a magnanimous contempt of danger*.

This

* There is something very singular in the method which Lord B— — — has chosen to manifest his Courage.—It consisted in continually going to his country-villa, which is situated near the center of *Hounslow Heath*, after the play in London, and unattended; declaring, at the same time, *that he would never*

This Lord is little known to me; indeed, from what I can learn, he is little known to any-body. --- With high rank, large fortune, and great pro-

never suffer himself to be robbed.—This magnanimous resolution he preserved, and has saved *Jack Ketch* the trouble of hanging two or three necessitous Gentlemen, by the execution of his own Pistols.

This circumstance has not been thought to reflect any honour on the Character or Life of the noble Lord, even by those who are the most jealous of their courage, and who examine least into the nature and proper objects of it:—but to persons of a calm and considerate disposition, it has the appearance of an insensibility which deeply blackens the character that possesses it.

This going unattended at midnight, several miles from London, on a road the most frequented by highway-robbers, being contrary to decent appearances, and not compatible with the common ideas of safety, must be considered as done with a view to tempt
an

provincial influence, he seldom attends his parliamentary duty, is not distinguished by any generous distribution of his affluence, and thinks it a sad drudgery to return the common complimentary attentions of his country neighbours.

I can easily conceive that a love of ease or tranquillity may lead a Nobleman from the bustle of public business or public pleasure;---and I
can

an attack; and by the public manner of making his declarations of resistance, he seems to have wished for an opportunity of proving the sincerity of them: and, as that could not well happen without a proposed resolution to shoot the robber, it may be very fairly concluded, that he was extremely wanton in the business of taking away the Life of a Fellow-Creature.

can behold him, as it were, enjoying himself in his retirement with equal dignity, utility, and satisfaction --- but I do not, readily, comprehend the character of that man of rank, who, without a disposition to literary pursuits, or those amusements which make rural or retired life fascinating, and without that superiority of mind which enables some men to soar above this world's competitions, --- secludes himself from the intimacy, and, almost, from the society of his equals; and never appears to be happy or at ease, but when he presides at the daily mess of his provincial Regiment, in whose private concerns, disputes, and quarrels, he is reported to find an interest, and, as
 may

may be expected, not unfrequently a disgrace*.

L— H— — —,

SUCH is the weakness of mankind, and so apt are they to be led away by the badges of rank and station, that the most ignorant, and even the

• Whatever may be the singularities of this Nobleman's Character, justice must allow him to be a careful, attentive, intelligent Militia Officer; and, I believe, that the battalion he commands is not excelled by any in the King's service.—How the little, silly disputes in which he may have been engaged with his officers, &c. should have reached the person who is supposed to observe upon them, I cannot tell;—but certain it is, that they are written in the chronicles
of

the most vicious of men, if adorned with titles of high distinction, will find a ready respect from the greater part of them;---indeed, there are very few who are found to possess a superiority to this unmanly prejudice.

This Nobleman, whose fortune is small,---whose political consequence is nothing,---whose small stock of talents is rendered less by intemperance, and whose personal qualifications are unpleasing, has his followers who think themselves honoured by
his

of the *City of Gloucester*; in many a chapter of which his Lordship does not appear with that dignity and good sense which his station requires.

his acquaintance.---There are those who look upon him as a person to be flattered;---and amidst a croud of opposing circumstances, his title procured him a golden wife, who could not be preserved, by the entreaties of those who loved her best, from acquiring the sad experience that honours may be bought too dear; nor from giving another proof to the world, that a Title, without one pleasing circumstance or accomplishment to recommend it, will oftentimes acquire advantages for which Wisdom and Virtue are seen to struggle in vain.

L— O— —.

THE respect due to any man whose integrity and great talents have rendered important services to his country, sanctifies, in some degree, the degenerate branches of his family from that oblivion which they merit.

How many old mansions have been preserved from decay and propped into strength for the sake of those who inhabited them, of whose excellence many a pleasing motive to remembrance would be lost, if the walls which they built, or the places where they dwelt, were beheld no more.

D 2

There

There is something not only pleasing, but laudable, in such an enthusiasm; and that veneration (I speak not of idle superstition) for the works of an honourable ancestor, which would urge his descendant to submit to inconvenience rather than destroy them, is ever accompanied with great and noble qualities.—It is upon a similar principle that I give my support and protection to this Nobleman: he has, individually, a very small claim to it, but the great and revered character of the Father will, I trust, justify my friendly dispositions to the son; and as the nation thought it right to extend the well-earned reward they bestowed upon him to a second generation, I
 may

may, surely, make such an example
the rule of my favour*.

E— of S— —.

THAT independence, which
the large fortunes generally
attendant upon the Peerage procure
to those who possess its privileges and
honours, does not exempt them from
the duties of their station, which are
many, and of the highest importance.
No man, whatever his fortune or
situation may be, is superior to the

D 3

obli-

* The pension voted by parliament to the
Speaker O— — was extended to the life
of his son, the subject of the foregoing
remarks.

obligations of a Citizen;--a character which comprehends all ranks and descriptions of men.

That preservation of good order, which must arise from a judicious execution of the laws, describes the duty of a magistrate; and an attention to form or improve schemes that may promote convenience and advantage more or less extensive, prescribes a duty to those who prefer the exertion of study and reflection to the hurry of public life.—These involve a great number of inferior but necessary obligations, which those independent men, who do not tread in the splendid career of Government, are bound by every law of Reason and Justice to fulfil;—
and

and the man who recedes from them, or refuses to take a share of them, forfeits the name of a good citizen, and deserves the reproaches of his country*.

D 4

This

* There is nothing which produces so much astonishment in foreigners of distinction who visit this kingdom, as the conduct of our most sensible Nobility and Gentry during their provincial residence.—Nor is it, by any means, an easy matter to convince any of them who have not been an eye-witness of it, —that a Nobleman who, during the winter, is watching over the great interests of his country in the senate, and supporting them by his eloquence, — when at his *chateau*, changes the scene, attends to the duties of a private Magistrate, watches over the interests of the province where he lives, nor thinks the due execution of the laws, the regulation of roads, navigations, and even the cultivation of his farms, beneath his attention.—It is impossible to conceive what grimaces I have seen foreigners make, and into what
con-

This Nobleman is a fair example of attention to the true dignity of his character, which will give a brighter lustre to his name than it would receive

contortions they have thrown themselves, when I have been labouring to impress upon them the possibility of such a description.

I remember to have been present in a large assembly at *Paris*, where an English gentleman endeavoured to convince the company that the private life of the best of our Nobility and Gentry was thus employed; and, as an example of it, he assured them that the *Earl of Harcourt*, when Ambassador from the Court of *Great-Britain* to that of *France*, not only sent weekly orders to his Steward in *Oxfordshire* relative to the regulation of some part of his estate, which he cultivated himself, but that on his arrival at his country residence, after he had quitted his diplomatic character, he was so impatient to see the progress of some of his Improvements, that, it being night, he visited several of them by the light of lanthorns and torches. ————— Here the whole

ceive from the most willing favour of royalty. --- Disdaining the light, unmanly, but fashionable pursuits of the age, he early entered upon the career of politics; --- studied, as it were, professionally, the duties of a Statesman, and has executed, with the most unremitted vigilance, the
im-

whole company gave an instant exclamation of impossibility, which continued to be echoed round the room with repeated vociferations, till the *Comte de L—* —, a distant relation of the *Harcourt* family, and who had passed some time in England, and been at the very spot described, declared, from what he himself had seen, that he most firmly believed the account they had just heard.—This gave an immediate check to the zeal of incredulity, and the English Gentleman was, at once, rescued from the unpleasant and embarrassing situation of having related a fact, of which his whole audience had not failed, most loudly, to express their disbelief.

important trust which has been reposed in him.

As a public Speaker, he is clear, able, and decisive; in his official character, informed, steady, and vigilant; in his private one, decent, domestic, and studious. --- Ill health alone will prevent this Nobleman from being a very able Statesman. --- I rest much upon his counsels; and I doubt not but his name will, one day, be enrolled among those who have a claim to the gratitude of their Country*.

For-

* That infirm state of health, which is mentioned with a tender and friendly apprehension of its consequences, continued to encrease till it finally ended in his death.

There was something manly in Lord S— —'s character, tho' he was not pleasing in
in

Foreign travel is generally considered as necessary to compleat their education whose rank and fortune call them to move in the higher orders of life;—but to form the character and manners of any one who is destined to the great line of Politics, it is thought by many to be almost the one thing needful. —

Indeed,

in his manners; and his great assiduity in the business of his office deserves that applause which is here bestowed upon it. — He was the *Eleve* of the late Lord *Egmont* and Mr. *George Grenville*, and, upon the whole, is said to have given satisfaction in the great post he occupied. — However, the favour and influence he possessed at Court, with the blue Ribbon that he wore only for a few months, were chiefly, if not altogether, owing to his ready concurrence with the wishes of the Q—, in counselling his master to pay the debts of her brother in *Germany*, and undertaking to manage the transaction. — This complaisance

Indeed, Sir *Robert Walpole*, whom every one, I believe, will allow to have been a tolerable judge of the matter, was of the contrary opinion; and this Nobleman, who never saw any country but his own, is so strong an exception to the general rule, as to strike very deeply at the propriety of it†.

sance to her M——, in a matter which lay so near her heart, and which the K—— himself could not have accomplished without the concurring advice of some or other of his ministers, gave a greater importance to his political character, and a more firm basis to his power, than all his talents, assiduities, and steady adherence to Government, or even his courageous opposition to Lord *Chatbam*, in the H—— of L——, for which renowned exertion of his talents and confidence he was most loudly applauded by all the friends of the Court.

† It was, without doubt, a very considerable disadvantage to this noble Lord, and, if
the

E — of C — — — —.

TO finish the career of life in
 insignificance is very disgraceful to any man who has appeared upon the public theatre of it. This was the lot of the late E — of C — — — —; and to begin his
 course

the above account of him be true, a great misfortune to his Country, that he had not received some tincture of a foreign education, as his ignorance of the French Language, which is so absolutely necessary in communications with foreign Ministers, rendered him, for a considerable time, incapable of accepting the high office in which he died. ——— The famous *Mr. Solicitor Webb*, formerly of the Treasury, and employed by Government against *Mr. Wilkes* in the affair of general warrants, is well known to have been so very conscientious as to have charged a client no
 more

course in professing himself the Hero of Debauchery and Prostitution, is the glory of the young Nobleman who has succeeded to his honours*.

In

more than five hundred pounds for learning a language, without which he could not, as he declared, be properly qualified to conduct his cause.—Lord S— — was obliged to undergo the same labour, — and was rather better rewarded for his trouble.—However, tho' the laugh was greatly against him at the time, it has ended, upon the whole, without begetting for him either shame or reproach.

* The late Earl of C— — —, having married the natural daughter of Sir *Robert Walpole* when that Minister was in the zenith of his power, derived no small degree of consequence from such an alliance; and was, on that account, courted, flattered, and even admired.—He, at that time, was appointed to several places of honour and profit,—was installed a Knight of the Bath, on the revival of that order,—and, at this period of his prosperity, was considered as a very useful Speaker in the House of Lords.—However,
the

In an age of folly like this, the follies of youth will command a pardon when they proceed from a character which promises shortly to obscure them by virtues. But to pursue such a conduct as to become a
bye-

the few good parts of his character, being contrasted by great extravagance, and numberless weaknesses, were soon obscured ; and, when the Minister retreated from power, the short æra of his importance expired. — A considerable pension from the late King enabled him to support the external appearance of his rank, but the closing years of his life were passed in all the insignificance of an old Courtier, who, however neglected, still presses forwards to obtain a moment's notice in the circle, — and of an old rake, whose desires have survived the power of gratification. — Except the transitory period of reputation, which, short as it was, the present Lord will not, I fear, attain, — there is every reason to suppose that he will become a very faithful copy of his almost forgotten ancestor.

bye-word for certain vices,---to be the burthen of every dirty song, the theme of every scandalous chronicle, and the boast of every abandoned brothel, is a public disavowal of that honest shame without which there can be no Virtue,---and a declared insensibility to the good opinion of mankind, without which there is no Honour.

The cheek which has lost the suffusions of Virtue, is prepared to receive the unfriendly glow of wicked resolutions; and, when the temple of Honour is once defiled, temptation will easily undermine the fabric, and the first storm of passion lay it in the dust.---When shame has lost its blush, the barriers of Virtue are broken down,

down, and the avenues of the heart are open to the intrusion of every Vice, and the impulse of every desire.

What confidence can a friend, a dependent, or his country, have in a man who has lost the sense of moral rectitude, and has no bounds for his sensual indulgence but those which are prescribed by the terrors of the Law, or the more yielding pandects of modern honour?---Nay, what confidence can he have in himself?---The life of such a man promises no great services to society,---and, when the anxious hurry of Passion and Youth is past, will afford him but a small share of comfort, either in reflection or enjoyment.

E— of D— —.

I Had a very great and respectful regard for this Lord's Father.--- He was an able, constitutional, and faithful Senator, whose opinions were fraught with solidity, and never failed to have their due effect on those to whom they were delivered. He was---what I wish to see every man of rank and fortune in the Kingdom,---a man of business.---I greatly regretted his loss, and most sincerely wish that I could so far indulge my inclinations as to bestow on the son the esteem and respect which I felt for his father when alive, and still attend upon the remembrance

brance of him;---but his Folly will not suffer me *.

The

* I am rather surprized to see such partial expressions of regard for the late Lord S—, who was a very active, intelligent, and even violent partizan against the measures of Government, till he obtained the high office which seduced him from his political connections, and metamorphosed him into a supporter of ministerial measures.

Before this period he was an useful, diligent, and zealous Member of Parliament; but no sooner was he appointed Chancellor of the *Duchy of Lancaster*, than he began to act the part of a great man,—no longer attended to the general business of the House of Commons, but reserved himself for the more weighty and important deliberations.

He was a man of very arbitrary principles, as appears by the new regulations he made, and the obsolete, oppressive usages he revived in his own court.—Perhaps his private emoluments might be encreased by them:—but, be that as it may, the bold, illegal proceedings which he instigated and supported at *Preston*,

The present Lord of this title is a weak, idle, dissipated young man, of little or no expectation.—Indeed, the first step he made towards public notice, by a new-invented, useless, unmeaning, irrational, and most expensive entertainment, marked the present weakness of the Boy, and loudly declared what he threatened to become in the future part of his life.

in *Lancashire*, to secure the election of his brother-in-law, who was afterwards tried for Bribery in the course of that business, found guilty, and fined a thousand pounds; sufficiently prove that he was not a friend to the constitution of his Country.—If my recollection does not fail me, he also gave another proof of his hostility to the *freedom of Election*, by declaring, in Parliament, that, if *Colonel Luttrell* had only *six* votes, he ought to take his seat in preference to *Mr. Wilkes*.—Upon reflection, I no longer wonder why Lord S—— was so great a favourite at Court.

His near Relation, Counsellor, and Friend, General B— —, instead of encouraging such a wanton, idle, and unwarrantable profusion of money, should have stood between the young man and his Folly.---It was his duty to have lectured him with severity upon his indispositions to good sense and prudential œconomy; and, if such a friendly reprehension failed of having its due effect, he should not have hesitated a moment in acquainting his grandfather of the full extent of his silly, extravagant designs, instead of being manager, actor, and Poet-Laureat upon the motley occasion*.

E 3

As

* It is well known that the preparations for this unmeaning ceremonial astonished even the most extravagant.—However, the
extent

As he appears to have undertaken the guidance of the puppet, he should have directed its attention to objects of Reason, Utility, and Character, which would have reflected equal honour on the disciple and his master.---I wonder the General's vanity, which is supreme, did not suggest a more respectable career for his noble pupil. It seems, however,

to

extent of the proposed plan of operations was kept a profound secret from the old Earl of D— —, who, having been informed that something of a *Fête* was to grace his grandson's nuptials, greatly approved of it, and declared to every body that he should give Lord S— — a couple of hundred pounds to defray the expences.—Poor old Man!—if he had known how many thousands were unprofitably lavished away on the occasion,—he would, in all probability, have new-modelled his will, and not have left the key of his coffers to such a promising prodigal.

to have taken another turn, and not only to have made him as much pleased with the gilded bauble, as the baby for whose pride it was shaped into such an ostentatious form,---but to have elated him with the hopes of no small applause from composing ballads, and inventing pantomimes for the festival:---nay, he appears to have been so much alarmed, lest his own fame and his nephew's folly should not outlive the public curiosity, that he employed his genius in working up the whole scene into a farce for the exhibition of a London theatre, during the succeeding winter*.

E 4

Great

* Tho' General B—— might have been principal manager and master of the ceremonies

Great talents cannot be extracted from weak minds;---but some assistance may be given to imbecility itself. To improve the human faculties and character, requires no small skill and
atten-

monies at this gay solemnity,—it is doing him injustice to suppose that he was the first promoter of it.—If I am not very much misinformed, he really was not, and the history of this notorious example of modern dissipation is as follows:—It is, I believe, universally known among the polite circles, that the present Lady D— —, then Lady E— H— —, had given an absolute refusal to proposals of marriage from her present Lord, on the hopes of winning the heart of his Grace of D— —; but no sooner were they baffled by attentions to the house of S— —, than she brought about a renewal of those addresses she had rejected, and yielded to them.—However, to compensate, in some degree, for the disappointment of not being a Duchess, she was resolved to signalise her nuptials with a scene of pleasure and entertainment yet
un-

attention; and in exalting weakness into strength, the labour is greatly augmented:—but *facilis descensus Averni*; ---to promote and confirm a dis.

unknown in these Kingdoms; and to have it conducted with that elegance, as well as attended with that expence, which should leave at a distance the sober operations of the House of *Devonshire*, and place her without a rival at the head of the Ton.—Her lover, eager to flatter such a laudable ambition, with the assistance of his friends, contrived the *Fête Champêtre*, which, some few years ago, not only awakened but embarrassed the curiosity of the whole Nation.—The Duchess of H— — was much blamed for not exerting her authority to prevent such an enormous expence; but her Grace found an excuse in that maternal vanity which, as it is generally supposed to be mingled with affection, softens the language of censure.—A little *female* ostentation also checked the General's prudence on the occasion—it was *that of his muse*; for the darling pleasure of figuring as a man of taste and literary character superseded every other consideration.

disposition to luxury, dissipation, and ruin, requires little more than a brutal instinct, a submissive temper, a coquettish Wife, and a false Friend.

B— — of C— — —.

IT is related of that great, wise, and prosperous Princess, Queen Elizabeth, that, on some particular occasion, when a Bishop refused obedience to the royal command, she declared, if his obstinacy should continue another day, she would most assuredly *unfrock* him.

How far the power of the crown may exert itself in degrading an episcopal character, I cannot tell;
and

and I am equally ignorant what obstacles the Ecclesiastical or Canon Laws would throw in the way of an attempt to pluck a mitre from the head of a prelate that disgraced it: ---but the condition of good behaviour, the *quam diu se bene gesserit*, seems to be as necessary to restrain the Ecclesiastical as the Civil Officer; and when a prelate acts in such a manner as to acquire the odium of his Diocese, and is so inattentive to his private character as to sin against the primary charities of life, I think there ought to be an acknowledged, indubitable, and ready power in the head of the church to strip him of his dignity*.

* I am not sufficiently informed to give any satisfaction on a subject which I believe
is

L— C— — —.

THERE is nothing which throws so great a shade over the human character, as the little tendency in mankind to pity and compassion. — This assertion may be
 confi-

is perplexed with great doubt and intricacy : —but I very well remember, that *Doctor Pearce*, the late *Bishop of Rochester*, finding self, from his great age, to be incapable of performing his episcopal functions, entreated his Majesty's permission to resign a charge, the duties whereof he could no longer fulfil, and received a gracious intimation that his pious wishes should be shortly gratified. ---However, in the mean time, certain difficulties were started by those (Bishops, I suppose, who were afraid of the precedent) whom the King consulted upon the business, which, after much deliberation, determined him to wave accepting the resignation of the venerable and conscientious prelate.

considered as very paradoxical, when the characteristic of the present age is universally allowed to be *charity*.—Let us reflect a little upon the matter.

That very large sums of money are expended in charitable contributions, cannot be denied; and the number of stately buildings erected for the relief of all the various calamities to which our miserable nature is subject, astonish the beholder.—Nevertheless, without wishing to lessen the good done by such institutions, I am obliged to observe, that the interest which real compassion has in the business, comparatively speaking, is very small. One silent tear, shed over the un-
for-

fortunate, far exceeds, in goodness and tenderneſs of ſentiment, all thoſe oſtentatious acts of public charity which look for a recompence on the gilded tablet where they are to be recorded.

There cannot be a ſtronger proof that Benevolence is not conſidered as the real ſource of public contributions, than the manner wherein they are collected, by addreſſing the paſſions rather than the ſentiments of mankind, in order to promote them. For this purpoſe, the ſplendid feaſt and the long-drawn proceſſion are inſtituted : with the ſame view, the flattering catalogues of benefactors poſſeſs whole columns of the daily Gazettes, and are transferred

ferred from thence to appear, in golden characters, on the walls of the respective Institutions to which they have contributed;---and to these circumstances their success is chiefly indebted, which, I believe, would fall very short, if no other means were used but the gentle entreaty of private application.

The character of the English nation, besides the more hardy virtues, is that of generosity, benevolence, and goodness of heart: but, if the corruption of the age is so great as to destroy, or even diminish, these primitive qualities; if the man of real compassion, who goes in search of misery and distress with no other view but to distribute relief

lief and happiness, is so rarely to
 be found ; some other mode of
 coming at the purses of the rich and
 great must be pursued ;---and it is
 well, if true pity cannot draw them
 forth, that any other passion may
 be made to answer the beneficial
 purpose. After all, the good done
 is equally the same ; but the bene-
 factor loses the lustre of his benevo-
 lence, when the feelings of the heart
 do not accompany the bounty of
 the hand.

I am well aware, that a superfi-
 cial observer of what passes in the
 world, would consider any one, who
 should deny to the charities of the
 age their apparent merit, as the
 most uncharitable Being in it ; and
 would

would lift up an angry voice against the writer of these observations : but a little serious reflection upon the matter might, perhaps, lower his tone, and a little attention to the manner in which public charities are collected, &c. would soon convince him that Ostentation is a principal promoter of them ; and that, as I have before observed, one silent tear, shed over the unfortunate, is worth them all.

This Age is supereminently stiled a Charitable Age ; but the generality of mankind, when they speak of Charity, mean nothing more than the bestowing alms ; forgetting what the Apostle declares upon the subject, that a man may give all he

has to the poor, without being possessed of real benevolence.---Other and many very different circumstances must be examined in order to determine whether this Age does in such an high degree deserve the name of Charitable.

For this purpose, we must consider whether there is more virtue, and a greater exercise of the friendly affections at this day, than in any former period; and, consequently, a lesser display of envious and malevolent passions. This is a matter which depends not upon me to decide; but, according to my own sentiments and observation, the bitterness of competition never prevailed

vailed more universally than at this moment when I am lamenting it.

The subject of almost all private conversations springs from the defects, infirmities, and misfortunes, of others; and if any one should be hardy enough to give the scandal of domestic societies, or indeed any scandal at all, the aid of the press, and offer it to the world at large, with what eagerness is it bought, read, and repeated, while the eulogium of praise extends very seldom beyond those whom it designs to honour !

Without entering, however, into a general discussion, so pregnant with unpleasing reflections on our

unhappy species ; I shall consider, for a moment, the rigid severity which is unworthily exercised towards those young women, whom irresistible temptation, impending danger, menacing misfortune, the wiles of the stronger sex, and the artifices of their own, have forced or decoyed from the paths of virtue. In such a melancholy situation the men consider them as the easy claim of their lusts,---the women look upon them with a stern contempt, while their friends do not regard them as objects of compassion : nay, how often does it happen, that parents themselves, who should call the stray sheep to the fold, win it back to virtue by kindness, and throw a protecting veil
over

over its shame, so far forget the most powerful feelings of nature, as to bar the door against it!--Indeed, so hard-hearted are mankind against fallen woman, that many of those who bountifully contribute to support the Institution for repentant prostitutes, counteract its real and most charitable designs, by refusing to admit the renovated objects of it to their service and employment on their return to virtue.

That such a conduct does not proceed from the nice alarms of virtue, or an intrinsic abhorrence of vice, is too evident, from the lives and characters of many among those who are courted by, and take the lead in, the fashionable world.

With what reason can any woman pretend to be shocked at female vice, or dare to turn her back upon the unchaste, who thinks it a privilege to be admitted to the houses and society of certain Ladies of Rank and Fashion, whose Gallantries, not to say Adulteries, are known to all the world, and are scarcely disavowed by themselves.

There is something, surely, very capricious in the sentiments of modern Honour and modern Charity, or it could never happen, that a woman, who, after she has increased her obligations to purity of life by the vows of marriage, enters into the full career of gallantry, and hardly deigns to throw a veil over
matri-

matrimonial infidelities, is visited and received by the most virtuous of her own sex without even the forms of reluctance; while an unfortunate, deluded female, who is restored to honour by the man who marries her, and whose subsequent conduct justifies his choice, will be regarded with coldness by her own sex, and seldom live long enough to survive the look of contempt, and the circulating whisper of their malevolence, whose whole merit may, perhaps, consist in having been able to conceal a crime which she had too much virtue to disown.——

This is the very general conduct of a *charitable* age; a conduct in direct opposition to the commands of the Divine Teacher, and final Re-

warder of Christian Charity, who points his anger at the obstinate transgressor, but offers favour, encouragement, and pardon, to the repentant sinner.

Candour itself must allow that I have softened, rather than aggravated, this imperfect sketch of modern Benevolence; and have scarcely undrawn one fold of that curtain which conceals it.---If so, I may, without any just imputation of Uncharitableness on my part, pronounce the Age wherein we live, to be an Uncharitable Age; and that a stronger proof cannot be given in support of such a description, than that the meek spirit of Forgiveness is so seldom exercised towards

wards female frailty, which, from a thousand concurring and powerful reasons, should hold the first rank among the numerous objects of it.

These reflections were suggested by the situation of the noble Lord whose name is now before me. His Lordship thought proper to raise to his own rank, a person who did not possess either the advantages of birth, fortune, or purity of reputation.---But be that as it may, Lord C--- seems to have known and reflected upon what he did: he was not seduced into his marriage by any arts or system of intrigue---He married the object he loved; and this appears in the strongest

strongest light, by the declaration he made to his friends and guardians, who proposed to avail themselves of his minority to invalidate the marriage.---“ You may, said he to them, take what steps you think proper,---but I am the best judge of what is to procure my own happiness; and if the marriage with my present wife should be made null to-day, I will repeat my nuptials with her to-morrow.”

Whatever may be the opinion of the world concerning the conduct of this nobleman, it has been fully justified in the domestic happiness he has experienced, and the comfort in which he lives. Lady C— — — has brought him several
fine

fine children, to whom she is an excellent mother. This being the case, from whence can it arise, but from an envious, uncharitable spirit, that the families of distinction and fashion in the county, where she lives in splendor and hospitality, refrain from associating with her; and that her table is seldom frequented but by those who are allured by the plenty and elegance of it.

Perhaps this nobleman is content with a domestic life, and the pleasures of his magnificent retirement, nor looks beyond them for his comforts and satisfactions; or he, surely, might contrive to gain the same popularity, ensure the same external

ternal respect, and command the same rank of society for his wife, as the present Lady F— — acquired, who has certainly possessed a very powerful influence in the career of high life, though sprung from an origin of the lowest kind, taken from a Profession of the greatest Infamy, and without the shadow of those good qualities which adorn the deserted Lady C— — — *.

E—

* The power Lady F— — assumed in the *Ton* is not yet forgotten:—it was considered as a privilege to be admitted to her balls and assemblies ; and, to ensure a continuance of them, a most implicit obedience to this high and arbitrary Lady was essentially requisite.—If she had commanded the gouty to dance, or the blind to play at cards, they must have obeyed.—Nay, she carried matters to such a length, as to expect that every

E— of R— —.

NO greater respect can be shewn to the memory of our parents, than in becoming the friends of those whom they favoured with their friendship: it is, as it were, continuing their life, when you continue their designs, and pursue the same

every body should visit her, without insisting on her returning the compliment; and the great world acquiesced in such an impertinence from her, notwithstanding her origin, &c. was perfectly well known, which the Duchesses of *Norfolk* and *Northumberland* would have solicited in vain. But this business has been over for some years; and, at present, she seems to have no other amusement but the Patrolling the streets of London in her coach, after it is dark; which singular exercise, I am told, is sometimes prolonged till after midnight.

same conduct they would have done, if their lives had been prolonged. This is a kind of duty which we owe not only to those who gave us birth, but to ourselves, and the character they have left us to support.

It must be a mortifying circumstance to a man of the least sensibility to find, on his succession to the estate and honours of his father, that an immediate chasm should take place in the circumstances of society, friendship, and respect. Nevertheless, this must necessarily be the case, if the Heir of a worthy man deviates at once from the manner of life and plan of action which was pursued by his predecessor; although the change should not
be

be marked with any glaring impropriety.

To confirm and continue popularity already acquired by the virtues of those who have gone before us, we must, for some time, continue that mode of proceeding which originally obtained it; and any changes that a difference of age, taste, and even the fashion of the times might require, should be made insensibly, as it were, and by degrees; and not till we have won a confidence in their breasts, whose good opinion is to make us respectable in the eyes of the world, and in our own.

When

When a parent is taken away,--- it is the duty of a son to shew such respect to his memory as to adopt his precise situation; and not, while the sable habit is on his back, to let the external appearances of things denote that the house has lost its owner, or the servants their master. He should meet friendship with the same welcome, make poverty smile with the same bounty, afford the same employment to the industrious, and give the same protection to merit, as they all received from him who is gone to his grave.—This is the way to continue the honours of a family, and to extend the line of hereditary virtue.

But

But this is not an age for such considerations, and it is no common picture in the Gallery of the times---where the young heir turns his back upon every friend of his family, banishes hospitality from its antient seat, and turns that fidelity out of doors which had grown grey in guarding them.

I have every reason to respect this Nobleman:—he has been an active and faithful servant, and deserves my grateful regard;—but nothing binds me so much to him as the circumstance of his having been the servant and friend of my father.—

This was a very powerful motive in my breast to meet him half way in his offers of service, and greatly en-

creased the pleasure of doing him good, and placing him in a situation that was pleasant and made him happy.—He has been employed in Posts of Honour and Importance, and given great satisfaction in them to me, and to his Country.—While he wishes to continue in Offices of State, his wishes shall be gratified; and when infirmity or fatigue may beckon him from the bustle of a Court, every comfort that depends upon me shall accompany his retreat *.

E——

* The E—— of R—— was a great favourite of his present M———'s father, and married a *greater favourite*, a Miss Y——; who was, at that time, I believe, a very *troublesome Maid of Honour* to the Princess of W——. Her R—— H—— was very sensible of the obligation she was under to Lord R——, and never forgot it,

E— of H— — —.

THE general bent of a man's character in private life is no bad criterion by which a right judgment may be formed of his talents for the duties of an higher, more difficult, and more important nature.

If a person of large property regulates it in such a manner as to produce riches to himself, comfort to his people, and improvements for society;---if he populates an uninhabited country, gives cultivation to the barren heath, builds towns for manufactures, and establishes them in prosperity;---that man has afforded those proofs of his abilities and

wisdom which will more than justify the calling him from the superintendence of his own private possessions to assist in the labours of Government, and the conduct of the State.

This Nobleman's estate in *Ireland* is, as I am very positively informed, a most pleasing picture of prosperity, which is more indebted for its splendor to the owner's wisdom than the industry of its inhabitants.--A nation, also, should thrive under the care of such a Minister:---indeed, to do him justice, his talents, as a Minister, have not been exceeded by those which he has so eminently exerted as a private citizen *.

* Lord H— — — has possessed the reputation

E— of R— — —.

IT is a matter of such universal agreement, that sudden elevations to prosperity are more difficult to bear than the depressions of adversity,—that to oppose the idea would be to combat the experience of all mankind:—nay, it would be

G 3

going

tation of great talents which his conduct as a Minister by no means justifies.—In the management of his estate in the *North of Ireland*, he has acted upon a very bold, spirited, and sensible plan of improvement, which has not only enriched himself, but given that country a noble proof of the advantages which would arise, not only to individuals, but the society at large, from a due attention to the important article of cultivation.—But, after all,—he is better skilled, I believe, in managing an Estate, than directing a Kingdom.

going still further;—it would be no less than pretending to a knowledge of man superior to Him who made him.

The Sacred Writings, in almost every page, warn mankind against the insolence of prosperity, and afford the most striking pictures of men, who, having been raised from nothing to greatness, became insensible to every past office of friendship, and sinned against that zeal or favour to which they owed their elevation*.——On the other hand, adversity is described in the Holy Volume as the salutary chast-

* A French Author, of no small reputation, has made the following remark: —

“ Si nous voulons conserver nos amis, nous devons tous les jours prier Dieu de ne pas permettre qu’ils deviennent riches.”

chastisement of an affectionate parent who wishes to reclaim his child, and to call back the Prodigal to the Home of his Father.

Prosperity, frequently, inflates the mind, as particular diseases enlarge the circumference of the body; a change which proceeds from some powerful relaxation, which is a symptom of danger and decay.—Mental imbecillity causes the one, and some kind of corporal weakness occasions the other.—But so are we made, that to bear a sudden elevation with temperance, requires an almost gigantic resolution; and he must possess an Eagle's eye, who can look at the sudden splendor of prosperity without blenching.

To outstrip, at once, every competitor;---to soar above the malice of those who hated us, and be shielded from the attacks of those who persecuted us;---to be at once raised to the means of crushing those who had done us evil, and of rewarding those who had done us good;---to be removed from the necessity of looking humble before the proud, and to be enabled to return the supercilious glance of that Pride which had disdained us;---in short, to find every wish of humble and anxious life at once realized into gratification,---these, surely, are circumstances so flattering to the weakness of human nature, that it is almost impossible not to become giddy on a sudden elevation to them.

On

On the contrary, Adversity, however great its first shock may be, soon yields to time, and, on the recovery from it, we begin to see every-thing in its true light; the false glare is at once dissipated,---the true are, immediately, distinguished from the false friends;---we are no longer dupes to the fallacy of our own heart, and the film is soon removed which prevented us from seeing and knowing ourselves.---Reflection, vigilance, and foresight, now succeed to inattention, negligence, and carelessness.---We rest upon nothing that will not support us; and, finding that the best of this world's dependences are but weak and uncertain, we shall naturally look for permanent support in the hopes of a better.

To

To this point adversity is made to conduct us, and they who patiently attend to its guidance, will soon be persuaded that it is only a blessing in disguise; that it is the gentle correction of a fond father, who wished to work their good;---and, looking back with gratitude, mingled with disdain, to the heights from whence they fell, will exclaim with the exiled Statesman of Greece, that *they should have been ruined,---if they had not been undone.*

I have some doubts whether the northern Lord, the circumstances of whose life hinted these reflections to me, bears his Prosperity with moderation.---If such a curiosity could be gratified, I should very much like to
have

have a peep into the heart of a man whose elevation in life has been, like Lord R———'s, beyond the idlest wishes of his youthful hours.—When he was a Clerk in a Merchant's Accompting-house, he little thought that every opposing circumstance between him and a Peerage would so soon yield to make a Lord of him; and when he became a Lord, whatever ideas of profit and loss he might have gained during his acquaintance with commerce, he did not expect, probably, that a lively, rich, young English Heiress would be so easily won by him*.

He

* Miss W——, afterwards Lady R———, on being told by her brother, in the course of conversation, that, if he should die without children, she would be a *great fortune*,—"For God's

He has still proceeded on the road of dignity;---a representative Peerage and a Green Ribbon have attended upon him,---and, I am disposed to think, other expectations are busy in his mind.---I never pass by H— —d House, where he now resides, without forming, in my own fancy, the state of his feelings when the accompting-house scene obtrudes itself upon his memory; or when he finds himself, by chance, in the same assembly with some of his former city associates, whom his pride may have induced

to

God's sake, replied she, marry, get heirs, and live and be happy; for your estate would only make me a meal for some *hungry Scotch Lord*, who would give me a Title and disappointment for life." — She was, certainly, a very quick-sighted woman, but did not live many years after her prophecy was compleated.

to neglect, and whose forms, figures, and names he has studied to forget †.

D— of B— —.

THERE is no political evil against which a young man should guard himself with such a cautious attention as the being engaged in, or placed at the head of, a party;

† I am much surprised that the Person who made these observations should be so ignorant of the transactions and particular circumstances of any noble Lord's family, &c. who frequents the Court,—*modern domestic history* being his favourite study;—but it surprises me still more when I find him dubious concerning this truth,—That a *Scotchman* never forgets his *country*, or the *meanest of his countrymen*.

party;---as he becomes thereby, with the shadow of power and importance, the tool of base designs, and an engine, in the hands of artful men, to sanctify their selfish and wicked purposes.---Being thus disgraced in the outset of life, he finds it a matter of no small difficulty to obtain the confidence and good opinion of mankind.——The situation, however, of taking the lead, as it appears to be, in a matter which is thought to be important, and awakens the public attention, must be very alluring to inexperienced youth; and, tho' I may be concerned when I see any young man of high rank and great expectations thus led away, I cannot express any great degree of surprise whenever it happens.

Vanity

Vanity is a prevailing passion with all mankind, and, when rightly directed, is, perhaps, little inferior to any of the best motives to human actions.---In the early part of life, when reason is scarce mature, and judgment by no means ripened, it is the most easily inflamed;---and, as Vice and Folly will employ arts and offer allurements which Virtue and Wisdom disdain, the chance is so much in favour of the worse influence, that it is almost weakness to express any degree of wonder at the few examples we find where the natural vanity of youth enlists on the better side.

This noble Duke flattered the world with expectations of much patriot

triot Virtue, and an unremitted zeal against the undue influence of Ministers.---He seems, indeed, to have pledged himself to the public, to oppose it, with continued attention, in that part of the Kingdom whence he derives his Titles, and where his extensive possessions give him no inconsiderable power:---but the menace of opposition being followed by no long continuance of zeal or activity, it is evident that he acted neither from his own spirit nor suggestions, but was the tool of a weak party, who were soon lost in their own insignificance;---while the honour he acquired arose from a temporary applause which he has not justified, and in a fulsome dedication, prefixed to a trifling pamphlet written by a
dis-

dissatisfied Lord of his own country *.

* I am by no means surprised at the severity which is couched beneath these observations.—I believe it not only alarmed, but enraged the Court, that a *Scotch* Nobleman should dare to oppose its influence.—The D— of B— was at the head of those patriotic Peers of *Scotland*, who nobly, but in vain, opposed the presumption of an English Minister in daring to dictate the representation of the *Scottish* Peerage in the Parliament of England.—The opposition was manly, spirited, and, I believe, of a very serious nature, in the opinion of an Administration who had every reason to expect a perfect acquiescence from that quarter of the Kingdom; and if it has not been continued with the same resolution, the relaxation of the measure is not owing to the lukewarmness or indisposition of this independent Duke. The pamphlet and its dedication, which is rather weakly alluded to, and contained observations on the Peerage of *Scotland*, was written by Lord E— — — k ; a Nobleman, who, according to Sir *John Dalrymple's* testimony, is a treasure of knowledge and understanding.

VOL. IV.

H

If

If that great man and able Minister, his father-in-law, Mr. C—— T——, had lived, he would have directed the young man's attention to the best objects, and have conducted him in the career of celebrity and honour †.

B—— of D——.

I Have often, and in these pages, expressed my regret, and even abhorrence of the general motives which govern the distribution of great ecclesiastical preferments :---
 nay,

† We can, very frequently, point out a better road to others than we take ourselves : and Mr. C—— T—— was very capable of it.

may, I have frequently turned my thoughts to apply some sort of remedy to this disgraceful evil;---but every idea I have given upon the subject, and every proposal I have made to check the manœuvres of Government in matters of Religion, have been silenced and opposed by the mortifying plea of State-Necessity,---which makes every-thing, even concerns of a spiritual nature, subservient to the business of easing the weight, and facilitating the movements, of Government.

If the wickedness of mankind obliges virtuous Ministers to adopt measures which they detest and discourage, but vainly endeavour to defeat, the evil must not be imputed to

H 2

them ;

them; and a good King can only lament such a fatal degeneracy, and display his own upright conduct to oppose its course.---But in the worst of times, Religion should be treated with reverence by the Ministers of Kingdoms, and its holy offices be preserved from the defilement of being made subservient to temporal purposes †.

This

† There is no surer mark of an age bordering on the extremes of depravity, than when Religion and its offices are not treated with common decency;—nor is there a more certain criterion of a Government being dependent on corruption, than when ecclesiastical emoluments are made bribes to support it.—To draw a comparison between the past and the present times, would be foreign to my immediate purpose; but this, I believe, will be universally acknowledged, that, tho' the vices of past times might be the same as the
the

This Right Reverend Divine might be a most fit and proper person to be elevated to that high rank in the prelacy which he now holds ;---but whatever his piety, learning, and exemplary virtue may be, they had but a small interest in promoting him to his present Dignity.—I blush to write it!—but it was to the number of preferments *which he vacated*, that his Lordship is indebted for the B— — — of D— — ‡.

E—

the present, the conduct of those who lived in them was very different,—a respect for public order, private reputation, and good manners, were still necessary:—alas! it seems to be reserved for this age, — *that Shame should lose its Blush!* —

‡ By his translation to D— —, the See of L— — and C— — —, a canonry of Saint Paul's, and the valuable living of R—, in

E— F— —.

A VERY great and singular domestic calamity opened to this Nobleman a succession to the honours and fortune of his family ; --and to a man of the least sensibility, such an affecting circumstance would

Herefordshire, sunk into the gift of the Minister :—the first of which he naturally kept open for Doctor N—, till he should become of canonical puberty ; and the last, one of the most pleasing and eligible private preferments in the Kingdom, and which the late incumbent quitted with extreme regret, tho' he had the See of Durham in exchange, has been presented to the Rev. Mr. M— — —, as a token of gratitude to that gentleman's brother, Sir W— — — M— — —, who, about that time, had rescued his Lordship from the rude and dangerous hands of an enraged populace.

would have produced a determined resolution to wipe off any stain upon his title, by a life of strict decorum, humility, and virtue.

To attach solid respect and a certain stability of reputation to a name, must be the work of very consummate excellence; but, perhaps, his deserts cannot be less, and the task will be more arduous, who wipes off Stigma and Infamy from the title he bears by the lustre of his own merit. He, surely, must be the happiest and most honourable of men, who can reflect, that the disgrace which has accompanied his name, from the enormity of an unworthy ancestor, is lost in the contemplation of his own virtues.

H 4

But,

But, alas ! what are called the favours of Fortune are, oftentimes, no more than smiling delusions ; and to attain honours is, as frequently, little more than to become an object of those temptations which lead us to disgrace them.

When Lord F—— was a private man, and possessed of a very moderate fortune, he was considered as a pattern of domestic comfort and happiness. He had married a Lady of a condition very inferior to his own, with whose charms and affection he was more than contented ; and to whom he made the return of a constancy almost proverbial among those who knew him. ---But no sooner did he become
possessed

possessed of his hereditary titles and possessions, than his dispositions, though he was by no means a young man, took a new turn.---The calm happiness and simple honour of private life were deserted; conjugal fidelity was not only wounded, but grossly violated by him:---in short, he sunk at once into the most lascivious life, and will most probably die a martyr to diseases acquired by debauchery and intemperance *.

E—

* These observations must have been written during the life of the late Lord of this title, and were prophetic of his end. It is most certainly true, that, after he rose to public honours, he sunk into private vices; and from a plain, decent character, grew into a professed debauchee.—A ridiculous pretence to secrecy in a celebrated Proprietor

E— of B— — — .

THE office of an Ambassador is an excellent school to form the future Statesman. The opportunities such a Minister possesses of acquiring a knowledge of foreign Courts; the insight he may obtain
into

tor of Hot Baths, relative to this worthy Peer, just occurs to me. This son of *Galen*, among many other instances of cures performed by his medicated vapours, which he related to a gentleman whose curiosity led him to visit this *Bethesda*, named several examples of great success in the last stages of the venereal disease: among the rest, he particularly mentioned, that a noble Lord had received a perfect cure, after he had been considered as incurable by the faculty. He was bound in honour, he said, not to reveal his name; but strongly hinted that one of the family had suffered by the hand of a common Executioner.

into the constitution and policy of foreign nations; the facility with which he may examine the conduct and observe the artifices of politics; the means he possesses of diving into the intrigues of States, and the readiness with which he may instruct himself in every branch of political erudition; should naturally form the Diplomatic Body into an excellent and well-prepared Nursery, from whence well-accomplished persons might be readily transplanted into every office of the State.— But so it is, that few of them return sufficiently qualified and instructed to justify their being promoted to any domestic office of trust and importance †.

† It does not seem to be the *fort* of the
B— Government to send proper men to
represent

This Nobleman was employed in
a very respectable and confidential
embassy

represent it in foreign courts. The office of Ambassador is considered in our politics as a place of profit, and therefore generally given to those who can make the greatest interest to obtain it.—Hence it is that *France*, who acts upon different and wiser principles, possesses such a decided superiority over us in their *diplomatic characters*. If a comparison were to be made between the men employed by the two nations in that and similar capacities, beginning with the *Consuls at Ostend*, and ending with the most respectable courts in *Europe*, the pre-eminence in favour of *France*, Sir *Joseph Yorke* excepted, would be evident to all, and force conviction upon the most self-interested partiality. Indeed, the B— — Government seems so sensible of the incapacity of their foreign Ministers, that, when they return home, some pension, household place, or titular addition is given to them, as a reward for their trouble, and they are heard of no more.—It is true that Lord R— — is an exception;

embassy to the Court of a great Empire, whose rising influence in the Scale of Politics is making such rapid strides as to attract the attentive observation of every kingdom in the same quarter of the globe.--- However, he has not aimed, since his return, at any important post in the State; nor, indeed, has he ever been

exception; but because he had been employed in the *Southern* courts, he was appointed Secretary of State in the *Northern* department, where the knowledge and experience, whatever it might be, that he had gained in his foreign capacity, would not be of the least use to him as a domestic servant of the state. Indeed, this happy arrangement was made, as most of our national business is done, to serve a turn.—Alas! it is this business of serving turns, which will, in the end, destroy the most glorious political Fabric that human wisdom has ever constructed.

been considered as a person qualified for such a situation ‡.

L—

‡ However, as the phrase runs, for want of a better, he was appointed Lord *Lieutenant of Ireland*, and with the *eclat* of naming his own Secretary ; a privilege much abler men have been refused, and which he owes to the difficulty of finding a Peer of the realm to accept the employment. The cords of ministerial bondage might also be relaxed in his favour, from the hopes that his relations, whose interest is great, and whose opposition to government has been formidable, might be softened, at least, if not entirely seduced, by the influence of the new Viceroy.

Lord B—— is an ambitious and a proud man, without any particular talents. When he sought the embassy to *Russia*, domestic discontent was a principal ingredient in his application ; and, when he returned from thence, he was not without his political hopes and wishes : but, somehow or other, he had taken a most violent aversion to the E— of B— ; a circumstance which was not likely to forward his designs in the road of political

L— A— —.

THE ways which lead to celebrity and renown are as various as those who pursue them. Some are known for their excellence in virtue, and others for their pre-eminence in vice.---Many are signalized for their talents, but more for their folly.---Wit seldom fails of acquiring reputation, and dullness

political advancement.—Nay, he carried his disgust to that Nobleman so far, as to refuse a Green Ribbon that was offered to him, because he thought the accepting of a *Scotch Order* would create a suspicion that he was devoted to his influence;—an idea which created his utmost abhorrence. A Ribbon of another and more honourable colour, is, I believe, his present object; and will, I doubt not, be his future reward.

ness is known to have conferred immortality.---Victory will consign her heroes to eternal remembrance, and cowardice will embalm the dishonour of her votaries.---Fame seems to be as capricious as Fortune; and will sometimes order it, that men, whose heavy characters have a natural tendency to sink into oblivion, should owe the repetition of their names, in the mouths of mankind, to the kindness of their wives.

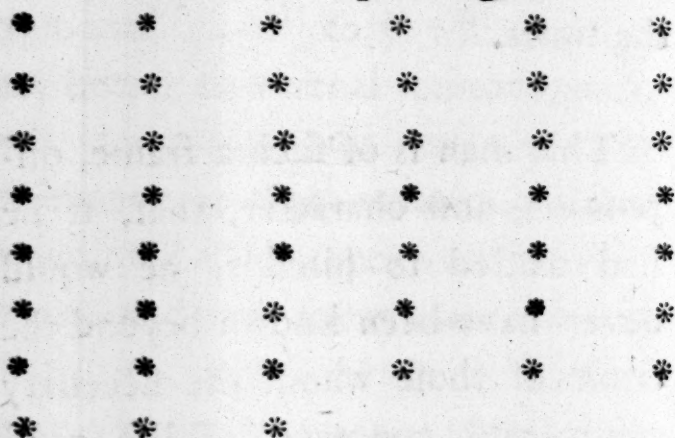
A good wife will do little more for her husband than make him happy; a pretty wife may give a man no small degree of reputation, while her beauty lasts; but a coquettish wife, if she carries on her business with spirit, will secure his
name

name a place in the chronicle of the times.

This man is of such a frame, disposition, and character, that, if he had trusted to himself, he would never have been known beyond the circle of those whom the necessary affairs and concerns of life must collect about him. As the possessor of a large property, as a Peer of the Realm, &c. &c. &c. he has hardly existed in the knowledge of mankind:—he is only known as the husband of Lady A——*.

* As a Peer, he is certainly known to the present, and will be transmitted to future times, as his name is frequently recorded among those who have entered their bold and spirited protests against the measures of modern Administrations.

It is a very unpleasing reflection



E— of O— —.

HOWEVER serious my ideas may be of filial duty, and however criminal I may think it is to sin against that respect, tenderness, and regard, which a parent has an undoubted right to claim from a child ; in the checquered course of human

human affairs, there may arise circumstances which would be even thought to justify the wish that the hereditary possessions of our family were under our own direction, whatever may be the event which must happen to produce its gratification.

An extravagant, capricious, and tyrannical parent, may deserve such wishes to attend him.---A prudent anxiety to preserve a tottering estate, a natural resentment against strange and unkind treatment from those whose duty it is to afford kindness and protection, and an honest love of freedom, will force a desire from the best minds, that the obstacles to their happiness and ho-

hour were removed, whatever they might be.

L— O— —

IS among the number of those, who may be justified in wishing that the person who keeps him from the fairest part of his patrimony, and in a comparative state of penury, had been forced by the hand of Fate to resign it to him for ever. The person that possesses it, lives in a foreign country, and dissipates its produce without honour or reputation; while the magnificent Seat of the Family, built by the pride of a Great Minister, is falling into ruins; and
even

even the superb Collection of Paintings, which adorn its splendid apartments, is threatened to be dismembered by the distresses of the present owner,---from whom she boasts of withholding the least assistance from a fortune, in a great measure, superfluous to herself, and which must one day be his own--The crying claims of such a near relation, and the falling honour of her family, have not the least effect upon this strange woman. Such an unnatural and malicious neglect will, surely, justify this injured Nobleman in the wish that she was no more; a wish in which he will be accompanied by that of his country *.

• The internal splendor of a nation arises
I 3 from

But such a latitude of filial disgust,
 tho', in some rare and particular
 cases,

from the taste and magnificence, as well as the industry and talents, of its inhabitants: it consists not only of its own productions, but in those which its riches command from the distant parts of the globe.—The amazing influx into these kingdoms of every thing curious in art, or rare in nature, has greatly helped to give us a decided superiority over the other nations of the world. The wealth of this kingdom, directed by the generosity, taste, and munificence of its people, have called the Genius, the Artist, and the Philosopher, from countries the most remote, to employ, encourage, and reward them.—But if this tide should turn, if the cabinets of our impoverished Men of Taste should no longer find a transfer in our own country, but to obey the calls of foreign purchasers, it would be a fatal omen, among many others, of our declining glory.—The celebrated and princely Cabinet of *Houghton* has already shared this fate, and is gone to adorn the Palaces of a rising Empire. This is not
 only

cases, it may be admitted, is not to be considered without great abhorrence.

only a national loss, but a national disgrace ; and it would have been well worthy the attention of Parliament, who, not many years ago, voted a large sum for the purchase of Antiquities dug from the Bowels of *Etruria*, to have preserved the Paintings of *Houghton* from the dishonour of a Foreign Sale.—Nay, it surprises me much, that the —, who has been continually employing his *Italian* Ministers in the business of collecting materials to enrich the —'s Palace, did not contrive, by some means or other, to prevent the wound which has been given to the splendor of his country.

The Dowager Lady O— is in possession of a Life-Interest in a very large estate in *Devonshire*, &c. &c. which the present Lord will inherit at her death;—but, while she lives, her Ladyship seems determined that he shall not derive the least advantage from it:—nay, she carries her enmity so far, as to give her directions from *Italy*, to have the influence of the estate exerted against his

rence.—Among the vicious refinements of the present age, there is nothing which merits a more sincere detestation, than the avowed impatience which so many young men discover for the death of their parents, and by the abandoned mode of declaring it in making open wagers determinable on the event;---a natural prelude to the very great indecency which so commonly accompanies the loss of a best, and, perhaps, only friend *.

A young

parliamentary wishes ; and has actually occasioned an opposition to Candidates proposed by him for a certain Borough in the West of England, which is commanded by the landed property whereof she is a tenant for life.

* There is no species of betting more common among young men of fashion than that which is made upon the lives of persons
from

A young man who, before a commerce with the world has insensibly corrupted his heart, can have been able, by any means, to extinguish the first sentiments and affections of nature, is well prepared to be as great a villain as temptation and opportunity can make him.

E—

from whom they have expectations, or may inherit reversions, &c. —whether they are fathers, mothers, uncles, brothers, &c. or in a more distant line of relation.—The manner of proceeding is to lay upon the life of one's own relation, by which means, in the language of the gaming-houses, there is a certainty of winning:—but if the father, &c. of the person, with whom I have made the wager, dies before mine, I win the bet; and if his should be the survivor, it is true that I shall lose my bet, but then I come into the possession of my estate.—These are very shameful calculations,—but they are also very common ones.

E— of P— —.

THO' duty to parents is a Virtue of the first magnitude, and, in short, the fore-runner of every other; it may, notwithstanding, be extended too far.---Goodness itself may be excessive, and we are told by the wisest of men, that it is by no means impossible to be *righteous over much*.

The care and anxiety which haunts a parent's breast during the uncertain progress of a child's education, should be returned by a ready and submissive obedience through the course of it : but when the tender age of youth is past, and the
 period

period of manhood is attained, Blind Submission is no longer to be an expected duty;---Reason and Reflection are then supposed to guide the offspring as well as his fire, and a more manly connection takes place between them---affectionate offices, a watchful attention, and a sincere respect on the part of the Son; sage counsels and ready assistance on the side of the Parent :---the latter loses the power of command, and the former is no longer bound to an implicit obedience.

The Sacred Precept of *Honour thy Father and thy Mother*, as delivered by Divine Authority, was addressed to those who had attained a completion of reason and manhood, and
implies

implies no other submission to the will of a parent but such as is authorized by the mature reflection of his offspring. Paternal power, and filial submission under this command, become, at a certain period, a bond of friendship, but of the first and noblest kind; enlivened and invigorated by the instinctive love of what has sprung from us, and an high sense of obligation for that anxious and preserving care which we owe to the Authors of our beings. --- These strong and primitive obligations of nature, therefore, are designed to mellow, as it were, into a kind but corrected Affection on one side, and Honour, Respect, and Gratitude, on the other.--- This is the just, regular, and natural connection between parents

rents and children, when the latter are advanced to that time of life which gives maturity to judgment, and they, in their turn, may expect the parental title.

An imbecillity of mind, or some particular circumstance of dependence, can alone bring a man to practise a childish obedience to any one; and it shews a proud, tyrannical, or insidious character in a parent, who wishes, by the mode of education he pursues, or the menace of disinheri-
tance, to keep his children or relations in a state of disgraceful submission.---The power of interest may be so strong as to chain down even the noble spirit to the painful task of owning an authority it despises;---but

no

no sooner is the bondage unloosed, than he rises at once into that liberal, generous, and animated manner of thinking and acting, which displays his real character to the world.

But to ensure a length of undeviating submission, and to impregnate the mind with steady dispositions to obedience, the artful parent, whose interested views might receive a shock in the early emancipation of her child, takes the surer way of private education,---wherein the instructed tutor makes filial obedience the first of Virtues, the theme of every hour, the point to which every precept tends, the source of every reward, and the guide to every Honour.
—Such an education, assisted by parental

rental arts, will continue the childhood of the home-fed boy to an advanced period of life-

I would, most willingly, forgive Lady P — —'s management of her son, if she did but exercise her authority in making him act like a man.---Her assuming a power over his purse, to supply her losses at play, might be forgiven, if, in other respects, she directed his attention to objects, in some degree, worthy the rank he holds in the world.——It is a great misfortune to some men to have lost a father at an early period, when, tho' they may, sometimes, be considered as plagues,---in general they are real blessings *.

* Lady P—— is said to be very much
infatuated

E— of W— —.

THERE is no individual who suffers more disappointments than are experienced by the world at large:

infatuated with play, and that she has been reduced to the greatest difficulties in order to pay debts contracted in that miserable business. That her son should afford his assistance on these occasions is very natural; and that he is ready to do it, I have not the least doubt, and from the reasons already hinted.—Nevertheless, I am firmly of opinion, that the young Peer has received more advantages from the care of his mother, however designing it is represented to have been, than he would have experienced from his father, who was an unpopular, whimsical, weak, and wicked character. The picture Lord M— — drew of the late Lord P— — in the House of Lords, in an appeal brought by him to their jurisdiction, and which forced him to retire covered with confusion, must be in the remembrance of many, and forms a part of the traditionary history of bad men.

large : public judgments are as often without foundation as private ones; and mankind, in their corporate state, seem to be governed by the same caprices, deceived by the same appearances, and liable to the same errors, as the simplest poor creature that helps to compose it.

A very great and singular attention was paid to the education of this Nobleman by his late father, who, fearful of the corruptions which disgrace our great seminaries of learning, consigned him to the care of the first historian of this age, to complete his moral as well as political character.---From Scotland he returned so well informed, and with such an amiable manliness about him,

that the most flattering prognostications were made of his future eminence.—He soon afterwards entered upon his travels, which did not, in any great degree, either improve or corrupt him ; and he has since remained a quiet, inoffensive, domestic character, little known but by persons of Taste and *Virtù*.

This Lord, without the predominant Vices of the age, and with a great estate, is represented to be in the same danger of disarrangement as those who are led away by them.—*Virtù* and Taste, alone, will find a way sometimes to get, very quickly, to the far end of a large fortune.

E— of W———.

I Never fail to express my satisfaction, when I observe any member of the Nobility, whose rank and fortune would enable him to indulge in ease and indolence, impelled by a vigorous and active disposition, and seem to be desirous of giving his name some degree of reputation in the opinion of mankind.—When such a disposition is the result of prudence and reflection, there are the fairest hopes of its producing service and utility to society:---but even when it takes a whimsical or grotesque turn, expectation may still look forwards to good ; as time and experience will soon give the active

spirit its proper tone, and direct it to proper objects.

It should be considered as an indispensable duty in those who have the care of rich and noble youth, to instil into their tender minds these truths:---that they are born for something more and better than to build houses, plant gardens, buy pictures, loll in chariots, attend public amusements, and give a thoughtless vote in the Senate;---that their wealth and independence do not exempt them from any of those general duties which all men owe to their country;---that there is something also due to the more confined circle of society, and much, very much

much, to their families and to themselves.

It is not sufficient that a Peer of the realm should leave his estate unimpaired to his Posterity; that he should be unstained by the vices of the age, or blush to commit a flagrant act of injustice.—These are negative duties, which a man of common prudence and good-nature may perform, as it were, mechanically, and almost without the exertion of an intellectual faculty.---Such a life of uniform, innocent tranquillity, does not include in it the character of the Patriot, the Senator, the Parent, or the Friend.---Such a life, indeed, is very superior to that

of vice, but is very inferior also to that of virtue.

That lukewarm medium of acting and thinking, which neither sinks into the one, nor soars to the other, though it does no actual harm, produces little real good ; and the man who pursues it passes through life without approbation, and sinks into the grave unlamented and unknown.—Negative virtue is a kind of negative vice ; and this intermediate character, though it will never be haunted by the censure which attends the bad, will also never be charmed with that applause that cheers the good.

The

The greater part of mankind gain the bread they eat by the labour of their hands, and the sweat of their brows; nor is the number small of those, who, by a continual exertion of their intellectual talents, obtain the food that nourishes, and the raiment that cloaths them:---nor are they who are born to wealth and independence, sent into the world for no other purpose but to eat, drink, sleep, and continue their species;---like the Courtiers of *Antinous*, *fruges consumere nati*;—but to take an active part in that society to which they belong, and to perform the obligations attached to their station, not from the desire of gain, but from a sense of duty.

It is the first and most honourable privilege of superior life, to engage in the concerns of it, free from the narrow and corrupting suggestions of interest. To act from the liberal impulse of the mind, instead of the rigorous dictates of necessity ; to possess a leisure for thought, a freedom of design, and a scope of action, unshackled by want, unembittered by doubt, or unawed by power, are privileges of wealth and independence superior to every means of sensual and luxurious enjoyment which they are able to afford.---These are the sentiments which should be fixed deep and unmoveable in the tender minds of those whose lot is cast among the higher orders of men.

The

The education of modern times is an education of accomplishments, and not of knowledge—of the body, and not of the mind.---Its great object is to form the Man of Fashion and the Courtier, instead of the great and good character. — Thus the Dancing-Master precedes the Historian; the Professor of Sciences yields to the Performer of a Musical Instrument; the Teacher of Legislation gives way to a Babler of Foreign Tongues; and Religion, to every thing.

To sing, play, and dance well, according to the sentiment of the great poet of life and manners, where Virtue is, may be most virtuous.---When external accomplishments

ments are only considered as the decorations of great and superior qualities,---when they serve as exterior graces to interior merit, they give a compleat finishing to the human character, and make a man every thing that he can or ought to be :---but, after all, they are only the secondary attainments, the mere ornaments of the building, which administer neither solidity nor strength; and he, who gives his sole or immediate attention to their cultivation, will be liable to the same imputation of folly and weakness, as the architect, who, in erecting an edifice, turns his thoughts to the richness of his friezes and the ornaments of his columns, and is totally inattentive to the solidity of the foundation

tion which is to support the fabric*.

E— of C— and O———.

*W*HAT's in a name?—says
the love-stricken Maiden in
the

* I have read these observations with pleasure ; but I never heard of any particular disposition to an active life in the noble Lord whose character occasioned them, but what appeared in a well-known, sudden, and whimsical voyage he made to *America*.—He went, I think, to *Portsmouth*, or some other sea-port, to take leave of a relation who commanded a ship under sailing orders for that quarter of the globe ; and finding him on the eve of departure, a sudden whim disposed his Lordship, without further preparation, to accompany him.—On his return, I remember, he had a long audience of his — — —, and, since that time, has been as little thought of as any person of his rank.

the play, who is enamoured of the enemy of her family; and the same sentence ought to be affectingly pronounced, when we consider what an empty thing titular distinction is, when unaccompanied with one amiable qualification or honourable disposition.

The lustre of these titles would have been continued, if either of the Brothers of this Nobleman had lived †: but these amiable and promising young men were unfortunately

† Lord D———n, a young man of most amiable manners and promising talents, who died in the life-time of his father, as it was said, of a broken heart;—and the late E—— of C—— and O———, of whose solid Understanding and Erudition the world had formed no small expectations—He enjoyed the Peerage but a very short time.

unately snatched away, leaving the honours of the family to rest upon a man who will give them no addition either of rank or reputation.

The name of B— stands very high in the opinion of mankind, and possesses a most respectable place among the great and learned men, who, by their talents and labours, have helped to enlighten the world.---To another of the same family, but of an higher title, we owe the machine which bears his name; and, in return for its Existence, will give him Immortality:---an Invention which conducts us at once to the skies; unfolds the Secrets of the Planetary System, and makes
us

us acquainted with the various worlds, which, with our own, help to form the grand Scheme of the Universe.—To an Inheritor of his Honours and Fortune, the present age is not entirely without obligation for several works of taste and diligence †.

By

† The Father of the present Lord appeared with some degree of reputation in the literary world; and, perhaps, was as proud of the title acquired by his studies, as of that which accompanied his birth.—The circumstance which induced him, not only most assiduouſly to cultivate the *Belles Lettres*, but to add to them, is very ſingular, and as follows :

His Father, for what reaſon I cannot tell, had conceived ſuch an ill opinion of his underſtanding and diſpoſitions, as to leave a very large and valuable Library to *Chriſt-Church College, Oxford*; aſſigning in his will, that the motive to ſuch a bequeſt was the
total

By whom or by what the present
interregnum of all utility in this fa-
mily

total incapacity in his son to make a proper use of it.—However, whether the old Lord had mistaken the disposition and talents of the young Lord, or that the latter was awakened from any natural indolence or heaviness of character by such a public and authentic declaration of his weakness,—he seemed to have been determined to prove the falsehood and injustice of that suspicion which had separated such a valuable property as a Library, collected by his ancestors, from the family.—The design he very fully effected by a diligent, and, I may add, laborious attention, to shine as a writer; and, from whatever cause such a disposition might arise, it soon became habitual, and was at last the leading feature of his character. He, most certainly, was not a man of genius, but a formal, laborious, and affected Pedant, proud of the name of an author, and swelled with any adulations from the Writing Tribe.—His works, laboured imitations of the antients, and expressions of a deep tenderness which he did

mily will be succeeded, I have not the gift of foreboding.---Various are the changes of human affairs ;---Pigmies swell into Giants, and Giants dwindle into Pigmies * .

After

did not possess, are every where to be found. —A fondness to apply the Classics, &c. &c. to any and every circumstance, whether a nail had pricked the hoof of his horse, or Death had deprived him of a favourite dog, or a favourite child, was among his particularities.—Though his writings are not of the first class, they have given ample proof to the world, that the father had misconceived the character of his son, and did him a real injustice by leaving his Library to sleep on the dusty shelves of a college.

• There is a story told of one of the family, I should suspect it to be of the present Lord, who, being under the correction of his Schoolmaster, received the following reproachful accompaniment of the rod:—
“ One of your Ancestors invented an Orrery, and another of them gave to the world a translation

After all, there is something very resolute in this Lord's politics ! †

L—

lation of Pliny,---but you, I fear, will never invent any thing but mischief, nor translate any thing but an idle Boy into a foolish Man."

† The part this Nobleman has taken against the measures of Government has been, I believe, without interruption.—I do not pretend to know on what principles he acts at present ; but his resentment was very loud at being refused the office of *Lord High Treasurer of Ireland*, which had been used to accompany one of his titles : and I am rather disposed to believe that this disappointment, fomented by some of his friends who were in the opposition, determined him to set his face so steadily against the Court.—His relation, Lord S—, did all he could for him in this business, and endeavoured to soften his displeasure by the offer of a pension, which he refused with disdain.

L— F— —.

WHEN ruptures happen between parents and children, as far as my observation reaches, I have generally found that they arise from vice, extravagance, folly, or disrespectful behaviour in the latter.---The reason, experience, and solidity of Parental Age cannot be supposed, but in very particular circumstances, to be so deceived or led astray as to give a child just cause of complaint. --A father, unless he is the worst or weakest of men, will not be found in the disgraceful predicament of wronging his son, but from too much kindness or indulgence. The natural
love

love of the being which springs from us; an habitual affection for what has been many years the object of our tender care; an attention to the good opinion of the world, which is never more in danger than from parental cruelty; and, besides, the near approach of that time of life, when the old man expects and finds his chief worldly comfort in the support of his children; are all powerful and effectual motives in a parent's breast to do more than justice to his child.

On the contrary, a young man, educated in affluence, heir to great fortunes, his passions in full career, and, from his own folly, or the se-

ductions of the world, continually impelled by the desire of gratification, finds, beneath a father's eye, an unpleasing interruption to his wishes; and, in paternal prudence, a frequent check to the career of indulgence.—In such a situation, and with such a disposition, neither of which, I believe, are uncommon at this day, the young man will consider his father as a spy upon his actions, the judge of his follies, a check upon his will, and an obstacle to his freedom.—If, also, to the enemies such an youth has in himself are added those without,—the hungry, deluding crowd he attracts about him,—it will not require a moment to determine, if such a father and son are estranged from each other,

other, which of them will bear the imputation of such a signal misfortune.

I call it a signal misfortune ; for, in the catalogue of domestic troubles, I hardly know a greater.—It is that which brings down grey hairs with sorrow to the grave,—and leaves the bark of youth without a helm, the sport of winds and waves, without the means of escaping the rock or resisting the storm.

It may be very natural to suppose me partial in a contest between parents and children ; but, however that may be, the circumstances of life, and the domestic situations of the day, will support me very fully

in my sentiments. Prejudice itself could not wish the balance to be more in favour of parents than it is.—Indeed, when I see a young nobleman estrange himself from his father, openly oppose his views, take a different party in the affairs of government, associate with persons obnoxious to him, and distress himself in order to distress him, from whom he received his life, I cannot but apprehend that there must be something more inveterate in his character than appears, and that he has motives to such a conduct which he dares not own *.

L—

* The great severity and injustice with which the character of an amiable young nobleman

L— S— and S—.

I Have already, somewhere, observed that men are frequently indebted to the care and conduct of their wives,

bleman is here treated, will be evident to every one who may take the trouble of reading the following relation, which I believe to be tolerably authentic.

In the latter part of the above-written observations, there is a clear allusion to the general reports concerning the rupture between Lord T—— and his son Lord F——. It was said at the time when it took place, and I fancy very much believed, that the young man was violently enamoured of the Lady whom his Father married; and that the nuptials, which gave him a stepmother, uprooted from his breast every the least sentiment of respect for his father. This opinion was generally entertained; and the following circumstances, among many others, was told

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in

wives, for that notoriety in the world, which, of themselves, they would never have acquired.

A pas-

in support of it:—Lord T—, proud of the beauty which was shortly to be his, some little time previous to his marriage, was pleased, at his own table, to exhibit the picture of his future bride to the company, and, amidst the praises it drew forth, Lord F— burst into tears, arose from his chair, and retired.—Now, I will venture to assert, that these tears did not proceed from disappointed passion; it was not a burst of angry sorrow from any sordid or self-interested apprehensions that made them gush forth, but the wounded sensibility of filial piety, not to a father who was about to commit an act of folly, but to the memory of a much-loved mother who was no more.

To make this opinion perfectly intelligible, I shall, without examining Lord T—'s hoary passion, and the injustice he committed against his family, by indulging it, beg leave to relate a little history, which

A passion for an innocent and lively amusement, which has possessed

is not generally known, and has been given to me upon such an authority as will justify me in the repetition.

The late most amiable Lady T—, without doubt, for the best reasons, made it the object of her dying prayer, and the last request of her life to her Lord, that he would never repeat the nuptial vow. This affecting entreaty was answered, on his part, by the most unequivocal and sacred promise; nor did he hesitate to enforce his assurances of obedience to her will with those solemn accompaniments, which, in the idea of mankind, render the breach of them to criminal as scarcely to admit of atonement.—If a son should have been a witness to this awful engagement, what must be his feelings, when he saw the moment approaching that was to break this obligation,—when he should see the dying prayer of a mother, whose darling he had been, treated with a contempt the most mortifying to an affectionate child.

Without

seised Lady S— and S— to a very advanced time of life, has made known

Without considering the force of such a promise, which the man who made it may declare was done merely to calm the last moments of a dying person, I shall observe, that, however indifferent the world might be upon such an occasion, a son may be fully justified in discovering an abhorrence of such a breach of obligation, and may very naturally consider the avowal of his feelings as a duty he owes to the dear and venerable memory of a much-loved parent.—— It may be said, that other circumstances concurred to promote this unfortunate estrangement:— perhaps, Lord T—— demanded his son's consent to certain settlements on his new wife, and the probable issue of his marriage; and, if that was the case, it was natural, for every reason, that Lord F—— should refuse it.— But, without entering farther into the matter, I flatter myself that I have given to the conduct of the young Nobleman its true motive, and turned the covered censure of the son into a clear and merited disapprobation of the father.

known a Title, which, from the insignificance of him who bears it, would hardly have been known beyond the Door-keeper of the House of L——, or the environs of the county of B——. However, after all,—it is a more comfortable thing for a poor man to be indebted for his fame to an old *Figurante* than a young Coquette.

E— of M— — —.

IT is the opinion of most persons of birth, in foreign countries, that to follow the bent of their genius, if it should lead to the attainments of what they call vulgar professions, would

would be derogatory from the high rank they hold in the world.—This is a very mistaken pride,—as knowledge, of what kind soever it may be, cannot be disgraceful to any situation; and hence it is that Ignorance is the general characteristic of the Nobility in many Nations of Europe, ---where to be noble, is to be a Coxcomb and a Blockhead.

In *China*, a country, by the contemplation of whose laws the wisest legislators of the western world might improve their own policy,---learning is the only source of Nobility, and, by preventing it from descending to an ignorant offspring, that wise people preserve it pure and free from pollution.---A class of men so necessary

fary to the State is not suffered to depend upon the chance of human affairs:---Merit, not birth, fills up the vacant honour, and preserves it.

If the Nobility of *England* is not the most virtuous, it is, certainly, the best instructed and informed of any in *Europe*.---The manners of the age may infect Lords like other men,---and among them there may be many individuals who disgrace their character, their country, and themselves; but, as a corporate, deliberative body, they possess a supreme degree of wisdom, eloquence, and erudition.---In the Peerage of Great Britain there are persons, and not a few of them, of the greatest talents and most consummate knowledge, whose minds
are

are not only capable of embracing the affairs of States and Kingdoms, but are equally instructed in the various branches of science, and adorned with the graces of taste and elegance.---Whatever subject comes before them, whether it consists of deep questions of State, disputes with foreign Nations, or matters of internal policy, as trade, manufactures, agriculture, &c. &c. &c. it is sure to be examined in all its parts with knowledge, ability, and eloquence.

A Peer of the British Realm, abstracted and unshackled from the particular service of Government, has a threefold character.—In the first place, he is an hereditary Senator,

nator, and every Act of Parliament must come under his inspection :—secondly, he is a Judge, and member of a Court which is the *dernier resort* of all legal application, and whose business it is to review the conduct of every other judicature :—and, thirdly, in his private character, as a Peer of the Realm, he must possess considerable property, and private influence.---Hence, a wise regulation of his own concerns, and the promoting good order and equal justice in the province where he may occasionally reside, become necessary obligations.—All these circumstances of character require great information as well as ability ;—and there are many who possess qualifications for them all :—indeed, there are none
who

who are not educated to possess them; and there are very seldom any who disgrace their rank from a want of capacity, or a failure of instruction, but from the pursuits of a pleasurable life.

A very easy proof of the foregoing assertions might be given by presenting a roll of those Noblemen whose great knowledge and eminent talents are on record.—But if we leave behind us the labours of the State, the splendid talents of the Orator, and the shrewd judgment of the Politician, and descend into the confines of private life, the British Nobility and persons of rank will appear to have given, and continue daily to give, the most incontestable evidence
of

of their acquaintance with the useful as well as elegant sciences.—Some have devoted their leisure-hours to the Muse, and tuned the reed, or struck the lyre;—others have laboured in the track of history, or the less rugged path of criticism. The spirit of agriculture owes much of its exertion to the noble and gentleman farmer.—The new and almost magic art of disposing and ornamenting grounds; in short, that new union of art and nature, which forms the science of modern gardening, takes its rise from the taste and judgment of our first classes of men. Nor is architecture without its disciples among them; and, under their direction, works, which would have rivalled those of Greece, have been erected.—Music, also, has rea-

son to boast of her noble votaries,—and Religion has possessed some very shining lights among laymen of high rank and condition. — Antiquities and natural History have been not only pursued, but illustrated, by the noble student ;—and, in the inferior arts, where manual and continual practice, in which they could not engage, is necessary to perfection,—men of high station have directed and encouraged the industry of others to very useful improvements. But, above all,—that sublime Geometry, which has familiarised us, as it were, with the worlds about us, is deeply indebted to the profound enquiries and inventive capacity of an English Peer *.

* The Earl of Orrery.

The

The late *Earl of Macclesfield* was considered as one of the best Mathematicians of the age, and to him it was owing that our regulation of the year was adjusted to that of other European Nations.—He was, for many years, President of the Royal Society, and gave every aid in his power, by the communication of his own attentive enquiries, as well as by encouraging those of others, to advance that science to which his genius had so eminently disposed him.

The chief Glory of a Nation must arise from those men who have made their names memorable by great and good actions.—The herd of Fops and Fools, however high their Titles, will be soon forgotten;—they are

lost with the trifles of the moment, while the useful, honourable, and active lives of great and good men form the splendid picture which succeeding Ages behold with awe and veneration.

L— F— —*.

THIS worthy Nobleman would, I doubt not, willingly change his new-created title of *my Lord*, for the more solid one of an *bappy Father*. I rather suspect that the

• From the manner in which these remarks are written, I should think that they were made about the time of this Lord's death.

views

views of his Peerage were founded in misfortune, and the motives which urged him to ask it were not so much to add an honour to his family, as to secure certain permanent privileges which might preserve it from disgrace.

If it were permitted to reason upon the matter, the conclusion would be, that this Lord met with a very undeserved fate.—In himself he was an honest, worthy, prudent, and independent character; managed his own ample fortune with wisdom; preserved a proper Hospitality in the Country where he lived, and acquired that influence which is the offspring of popular regard and veneration.—Won. by his

prudent and sensible conduct, his very distant relation, the late Lord F— —, made him the inheritor of his immense property, as a person whose character and dispositions would lead him to apply it to the wisest purposes. I never heard his œconomy accused of being too strait either to his Neighbour, his Friend, or his Children.—It is therefore a most lamentable circumstance, that the latter should, by a system of extravagance, wherein no one good was done, no one worthy act performed, no one good consequence derived, tear such a noble fortune to pieces, embitter the latter years of an excellent parent, and employ his closing life in the miserable duty of preserving a remnant of one of the finest

finest estates in the kingdom to children yet unborn *.

* In the annals of modern extravagance, there has not been such an extensive and useless dissipation as has been contrived by the *two elder sons* of this family.—There was neither splendor nor elegance in the business, and the golden interval was not graced with jovial mirth or smiling hospitality. It gave neither bread to the Labourer, nor encouragement to the Artist; no one profited by it but the bloodsucking Usurer, the Jockey, and the Gamester.—It was a ruin with scarce a wreck;—when the bark sunk, a few silken streamers floated on the wave, and that was all.—The attempt to overturn the testamentary arrangement of the late Lord by an act of parliament, was illegal; and they were friends to the laws of their country who opposed the innovating design.—The infant and the child unborn will one day thank them for their justice and their mercy.

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D— of C— —.

IF the most amiable heart, the most polished manners, a solid understanding, and an irreproachable demeanour, can give any honour to private life; this man is entitled to enjoy the fulness of it.— If sound judgment, an independent spirit, an active disposition, a sober dignity, and patriot virtue, can exalt a public character; this Duke has a just claim to the highest reputation which it is capable of receiving.

As an husband, a father, a master, a neighbour, a citizen, a peer, and a christian, he has afforded an example which would greatly benefit
and

and adorn the times in which we live, if it could charm those of his birth, rank, and fortune, to make his the model of their own lives †.

He is the friend of government without the suspicion of acting from any but patriot motives.—He has not only fulfilled his duties, as a peer of the realm, with ability, zeal, and attention, without grounding upon them a claim to the emoluments of government, but has refused offices of profit, as well as dignity, which have solicited his acceptance ‡.

† He has always preserved the character of a decent, moral man:—besides, he has built a church.

‡ From a certain sort of old-fashioned dignity

I dwell with pleasure on the virtues of this excellent nobleman; I have known him long and well, and have esteemed him as a character that reflects the brightest lustre on the Peerage of Great Britain.

With what wisdom and good Fortune did the Duchess of C—— dispose of her immense riches in the purchase of so much happiness as the affections of such a man is ca-

nity and parade that he supports, I should think that he is lying by for a *blue Ribbon*; and, if I know any thing of his character, he would rather be adorned with that personal bawble, than be employed in the most honourable, and what, I believe, is of more consequence to his Grace, the most *profitable* post his Majesty has to bestow.

pable

pable of bestowing! All the privileges of rank and station, however great they may be, are but dust in the balance, when compared with the solid honours of virtue, and the genuine comforts of domestic life §.

E— of B—.

IT has been said, that the fortune which gives a throne forbids

§ These sentiments must allude to the late most excellent Duchess of C— —. His Grace, however, as all the world knows, is married again;—a rich virgin was his former lot, a rich widow is his present fortune: but, from the vanity and extravagance of this woman, and the uncertain contingencies of her property, &c. &c. &c. the *Hampshire* people think that the *poor Duke* is *completely taken in*.

him

C

him who sits on it to have a Friend.
 ——What!—are the noblest feelings of human nature to be excluded from a royal bosom?—and is a Sovereign the only person in his kingdom who cannot retreat from the labours of duty to the intercourse of Friendship, or lose the form of power in the society of those he loves?—Are his eyes to be shut against consummate merit?—Must he be ungrateful to long service, and, the moment he succeeds to power, does it become a duty in him to estrange himself from those who have guided his youth, improved his mind, and fitted him for the pre-eminence he possesses?
 ——What will the rigid dictator of Kings allow to be a wise relaxation

laxation from the cares of empire?
 —Must he retire at once from active duty to gloom and solitude? Is he to go abroad, like the *Tartarean Lama*, for mere purposes of policy, and then be shut up from all the pleasures of society?—Must a King, to act aright towards his people, be ungrateful to the individual who has served him, and pass by the merit that claims protection? †

* *

† The Writer greatly mistakes the matter; and the warmth into which he rises makes it evident that they are the sentiments of passion inflamed by displeasing reflection. — The feelings and sensibility of Friendship are as necessary to perfect the royal as the private character; and a King is warned against personal attachments to individuals,

* * * * *

als, to prevent any object from standing between him and his people. His subjects should be the great and comprehensive object of his affections, and their voice should recommend to his esteem the friends of their country.—Private Friendship is very dangerous to a Prince;—it makes Favourites,—a species of Court Characters the most hostile to the Honour of a Sovereign. The pleasures of society are his; and he may enjoy them with as much care and satisfaction as any of his subjects.—*George the First* enjoyed them;—*George the Second* did the same.—They both had their private parties; but they were governed, as such relaxations generally are, by the pleasant, good-humoured characters of those who composed them; without those violent communications of friendship, which, like gleams of fine weather in a storm, seldom come, never last, and do not belong to a King.—Besides, when he is an Husband and a Father, when he can command the Labours of Science and Genius, when he has such means of doing good

* * * * *

good and diffusing his benevolence, can a King complain of wanting due relaxation, and the being deprived of honest satisfactions, because it is declared to be wrong in him to tempt a man, by confidence, to become a Traitor.—The History of Favouritism, in all countries, is the history of private misfortune and public calamity.—A King is born for the service and to be the Friend of his people; and a free people will be naturally jealous of any person who divides the Royal Affection, and grow into rage if he should engross it from them.—There should be nothing private about a King; he is a public character, and should preserve the air of royalty even in his most easy retirements.—It is his duty to reward those who deserve reward, and to protect those who deserve protection;—but his bounty should have public utility for its grand object, and not any little idea of private preference.—A King of England who may so easily reign in the hearts of his people, and possesses such noble objects to fill
his

* * * * *

With what insult I have been
treated;—with what rudeness has the

his mind, has no right to complain of any restraint that the constitution has made upon his prerogative, or that popular opinion may oppose to his wishes.—— It is observed by *Machiavel*, that Princes are seldom so judicious in the choice of their favourites as the people; a private man who surrenders his heart to the confidence of one person, puts himself into a very dangerous situation.— When a Prince does it, he chuses a master for his people as well as for himself.—The relations, by which a King stands in a gracious aspect towards his people,—as *Charles the First's Parliament* told him when they desired him to remove his favourite the *Duke of Buckingham*,—so far and so universally transcend any relation of a master towards a servant,—that any expression of grace to the latter is not to be put in the least degree of competition with the former.

tongue

tongue of Scandal been engaged
 against me ! and what a change has
 taken place in the minds and tem-
 per of the people, because * *

*	*	*	*	*	*
*	*	*	*	*	*
*	*	*	*	*	*
*	*	*	*	*	*
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*	*	*	*	*	*
*	*	*	*	*	*
*	*	*	*	*	*
*	*	*	*	*	*
*	*	*	*	*	*
*	*	*	*	*	*

——Alas ! how much I have suf-
 fered for him, and how severely he
 has suffered for me ! and to preserve
 him * * * *

I have made a sacrifice which embitters my life †.

† The noble Lord who is so affectionately alluded to in the foregoing reflections, has been so particular an object of national observation, that I cannot let his subject pass me without giving a short sketch of his character and administration.

I shall pass over the early part of his life, when he was charitably admitted to the Duke of Argyle's table. I shall not relate the political principles he then publicly avowed, and which had very near deprived him of that essential privilege. I shall not consider the arts by which he won his way to confidence in the P— of W—'s Court, but shall begin with him at that period when his slumbering ambition awoke and grasped at supreme power.

There never was a period in the annals of this country, when the Royal Favourite had such an opportunity of satisfying ambition as the E— of B— possessed at the accession of his present —. The English are a good-

good-natured people, and at that time they were so enamoured of their Prince, that, although *Scottish* Perfidy was not quite forgot, the appointment of him to the first honorary post about the court would not have called forth an ill-natured observation:—nay, so much were the people disposed to acquiesce in the wishes of their native King, that his being named Secretary of State did not create the murmurs which might have been expected; nor would they have ever increased, if the *Scot* had moderated his ambition.—But he wished to get rid of a coadjutor, whose splendid talents eclipsed his own, and the superiority of whose genius he found too imposing for him. This was rather a dangerous, but not a difficult business; and by working up the —— to force a pension on Mr. P—, his cowardice found a refuge in the idea, that, by thus damning the late Secretary as a Pensioner, in the public opinion, he should possess his future power without peril, and without controul. He forced that Pilot from the Helm who had conducted the vessel to Glory, and seized it with his own trembling hand which was not able to hold it; and, after he had awakened the dying embers of dissention between two

parts of the same kingdom, by his daring, continual, and decided preference,—after having made a disgraceful peace, distressed government, and rendered his too confiding — unpopular, he sculked like a very coward from his post, and was seen no more.— However, through the course of several short-lived Administrations, he attempted to rule behind the curtain, and completed the business of clouding the dawn of a reign that promised a more effulgent greatness than the world had ever beheld.—The effects of his Administration were long ago foretold ;— they are now compleating, to the shame, I had almost said, to the downfall of this once splendid Empire.

I do not believe that this Nobleman ever had a spark of good-will to this country, and that there ever was a man more infected with Scottish Prejudices against it.—What are his true political sentiments, and what have ever been his wishes for the British Throne, I cannot pretend to determine ; but this I will venture to assert, that the *Amor Patriæ*, the noble glow of patriotic passion, which is ever allied to so many great and noble qualities, is not known to him.—He is selfish, timid, gloomy, and ambitious,—
proud,

proud, unforgiving, and relentless.—He hates the English people from principle;—they obstructed his views, drove him from power, threatened his life, made him fly from his country,—and now suffer him to linger out a miserable existence, as an object, though deserving of punishment from the ———, beneath their indignation.—— If I understand him rightly,—he looks with a malignant pleasure on our present distress and danger, and would find, in the despair of this country, a compensation for his own disappointed Ambition.

THE END OF THE FOURTH VOLUME.

These, however, are not the only
ways in which the people may be
taught. The most effective way
is by the use of the Bible. The
Bible is the word of God, and
it is the only book which
contains the truth. It is the
only book which can give us
the knowledge of God and
His will for us. It is the
only book which can give us
the power to overcome sin and
to live in peace with God and
our fellow men. It is the
only book which can give us
the hope of eternal life.



THE BIBLE SOCIETY OF AMERICA

